

Hafa Adai!

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Ohala Foundation is launched on Tinian. **PAGE 3**

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NMI's COVID-19 total now at 98

By JUSTINE NAUTA
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REPORTER

Another day and two more individuals have tested positive for COVID-19, raising the CNMI's total number of cases to 98.

According to a Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. statement yesterday, the two new cases were identified through travel screenings and confirmed positive through testing upon arrival and on their fifth day of testing.

See COVID-19 on Page 4

COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY

LEGEND:

- Red: Least safe
- Orange
- Yellow
- Blue
- Green: Safest

Source: Office of the Governor

AT A GLANCE

As of 6pm, Nov. 5, 2020

GUAM	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	4,812	91	4,903
Recovered	3,221	7	3,228
Active	1,501	91	1,592
Deaths	83	2	85
Cumulative Number of Persons Tested			69,962

SAIPAN	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	96	2	98
Deaths	2	0	2
Cumulative Number of Persons Tested			22,633*

*Total count includes the number of persons tested on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. With guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CHCC has opted not to report active and recovered cases. The community-based testing has been temporarily suspended.

Source: Joint Information Center - Guam, Commonwealth Health Care Corp.

VETERANS AND MILITARY FAMILIES MONTH

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, seated at the top of the table with Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang beside him, signs the proclamation that designates November as CNMI Veterans and Military Families Month yesterday morning at the Office of the Governor's conference room on Capital Hill. The Saipan Southern High School Color Guard Team also presented the flags, along with the singing of the U.S. and the CNMI national anthems.

Story on Page 2

NEIL FAMA



IPI submits docs to DPW; stop-work order remains

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REPORTER

Construction work at the Imperial Pacific Resort in Garapan has yet to resume, despite their construction team's submission of required documents to the Department of Public Works last week, according to Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC chief executive officer Donald Browne.

“DPW is in the process of reviewing and construction will begin once DPW approves the documents,” said Browne in response to *Saipan Tribune's* request for an update.

See IPI on Page 4

Hix assures successful Democratic bets will deliver

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REPORTER

NMI Democratic Party chair Nola Hix expressed confidence yesterday that their successful candidates, based on the Commonwealth Election Commission's unofficial tabulation results, will deliver change to their constituents.

The CNMI Democratic Party, in its statement, said there is a lot of work ahead and it urged all elected

See HIX on Page 4

'Appoint Propst replacement ASAP'

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REPORTER

Five House lawmakers belonging to the minority bloc urged Gov. Ralph DLG Torres yesterday to follow the law by immediately appointing former Department of Public Safety official Franklin R. Babauta to replace Edwin Propst as representative of Precinct 1.

Reps. Christina Sablan (D-Saipan), Sheila Babauta (D-Saipan), Donald Manglona (D-Saipan), Edmund Villagomez (Ind-Saipan), and Richard Lizama (Ind-Saipan) told Torres in a letter that he should have filled the House vacancy on or before Oct. 31, 2020—as required by law.

The minority lawmakers See PROPST on Page 4



Propst

INSIDE

BUSINESS

Triple J's Payless SuperFresh & Truckload Store celebrates its first year anniversary on Sunday.

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NATION

Joe Biden won the battleground prizes of Michigan and Wisconsin on Wednesday.

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WORLD

Britain joins swaths of Europe in a new lockdown designed to save its health care system.

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GOT A NEWS TIP?

TEL: 235-6397 / 235-2440 FAX: 235-3740 EMAIL: editor@saipantribune.com

Local

CEC chair: Revamp needed to make future counts faster

Commonwealth Election Commission board chair Jesus I. Sablan said Wednesday he is looking at revamping some processes at CEC to make future election tabulations faster.

The CEC board will probably be meeting in January 2021 to talk about potential

changes, said Sablan in an interview after CEC completed their tabulation of votes at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center last Wednesday.

He is satisfied with the smooth



Sablan

tabulation of ballots this year but Sablan believes some tweaks will make it even faster and smoother.

Sablan said it's the absentee voting that holds them back; they need to

process it in a way where they make sure that the affidavit that they received has a signature. "We have to compare it with the registration's signature and make sure that the same person is actually casting their vote," Sablan said.

He said the 21-day early

voting helps with the orderly election.

CEC has yet to certify the results of their tabulation because the last batch of absentee ballots are coming on Nov. 17," he said.

Sablan said based on the total number of absentee ballots that were sent out, there's a

balance of about 600. "But... I'm looking at between 50 and 100 [that will arrive on Nov. 17]," he said.

If that estimate proves correct, the coming absentee ballots would not likely affect the results of the unofficial tabulation. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

November is for veterans and their families

By JUSTINE NAUTA
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REPORTER

The month of November was designated yesterday as CNMI Veterans and Military Families Month, with Gov. Ralph DLG Torres signing the

proclamation at the Office of the Governor on Capital Hill.

This comes as the United States prepares to mark Nov. 11 as Veterans Day not just in the United States but also in its territories.

According to Stanley T.


Iakopo, executive officer of the Veterans Affairs Office, the proclamation signing is intended to honor those who have served, the fallen heroes, servicemen and women, and their families.

See **VETERANS** on Page 4

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Ohala Foundation is launched on Tinian

The Ohala Foundation, a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping those in need, has launched its website at www.ohalafoundation.org and its headquarters on Tinian with a diverse set of programs to offer the CNMI and eventually the region.

The Ohala Foundation, started by the Mendiola-Long family on Tinian, was created to focus on feeding, clothing, training and medically assisting those most in need. The Ohala Clothing Closet accepts gently-used clothing for eventual distribution to the community. The Ohala Food Bank is a central network of companies, volunteers, and donors that seek to help those that are hungry through meal and food distribution. The Ohala Healing Program was launched as an initiative led by the Ohala Foundation to provide financial assistance to families in medical emergencies and to provide fundraising strategies to purchase much-needed medical equipment for rural hospitals on the islands.

"Our family developed this foundation to feature a set of different programs that affect those most affected by our challenging economic times," said foundation chair and co-founder Phillip T. Mendiola Long. "Clothing, food, education, and medicine are four of the primary needs of our communities. The foundation seeks to reach out to the entire world and attract caring and generous partners that will assist us to ensure that, first, no one goes hungry here, and second, to provide other support to get families back on their feet. We have already partnered with Tinian Junior/Senior High School's ROTC, National Honor Society and their Student Council that have already begun work

with us in our goal of helping our community. There is a notable demand for support and assistance right now and we are actively trying to increase our capacity for being able to provide food security, health care and career opportunities."

Tinian High School senior Tasi Long, who is the foundation's vice chairman and co-founder, and said, "After Super Typhoon Yutu struck Tinian in 2018, our entire family jumped into community service and led charitable response for food, clothing, generators, tarps, and solar lanterns. I discussed with my dad that I wanted to continue helping our community, but I wanted something long-term and an entity our community could depend upon in future times of need. That is when our family created the Ohala Foundation. I am hopeful that this organization will continue to lead in helping the entire Marianas defeat hunger, poverty, and respond to natural disasters."

Other board members of the foundation are Cielo Long, Isa Ha'ani Long, Arley Long, and Ed Arriola Jr. The Ohala Foundation will be launching new events in the next 30 days to commemorate the start of its operations. The Ohala Closet Grand Opening was held on Nov. 3, followed by the Ohala Community Food and Clothing Drive on Nov. 3 and 4. Food bank meal distribution will begin on Nov. 6. Toward the latter part of November, the foundation will conduct a Basic Customer Service Training Program on Nov. 20 and will feature a Spirit of Ohala Virtual Run on Nov. 27.

For more information on how to donate, volunteer, or avail of services, visit www.ohalafoundation.org or call 670-433-2664. (PR)



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Members of the new Radio Amateur Marianas DX pose for a souvenir photo. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Group revives amateur radio in the CNMI

A new group of modular radio enthusiasts have set out to revive amateur radio—or HAM radio—in the CNMI with the purpose of offering voluntary assistance to the community.

According to Cris Francisco Jr., president of the new Radio Amateur Marianas DX that was licensed back in September, the main goal of the club is to offer communication services, especially in times when phone lines become unreliable, such as after typhoons, or in staging large-scale events that demand instant communication, like triathlons.

The club, which currently has over 20 members, was inspired to revive HAM radio following Super Typhoon Yutu when phone lines were unreliable and power was off islandwide with exception of those who had generators.

Since the islands are prone to these disasters, Francisco said that having this kind of communication service could help a lot in getting people the assistance they might need, like aid from the American Red Cross and other organizations that offer humanitarian aid.

Although not everyone can operate a modular radio, everyone can join the group and serve as volunteers, Francisco added. Just as much as the club needs radio operators, more so do they need volunteers to carry out the help community needs.

Francisco explained that although the club is newly formed, it consists

of many of the same members of former HAM radio clubs.

“Ham radio has been in the CNMI for years under different organizations that shared a repeater on Mt. Tapochau but, after we lost that repeater, all those organizations were gone. We have been waiting for almost two years, then we organized a new group, we bought a new repeater, and is now introducing it again to the public,” he said.

All radio organizations used to connect to the only one radio repeater on top of Mt. Tapochau, which acted like a service antenna. In 2018, after Super Typhoon Yutu wreaked havoc in the CNMI, that repeater was destroyed, dismantling the numerous radio organizations in the Marianas.

Francisco explained that the Radio Amateur Marianas DX Club took it upon themselves to purchase a new repeater and it is open to all HAM radio operators even if they do not want to be part of the club.

Licensed HAM radio operators who want to utilize the repeater may use the station WH0ACH.

For those who would like to join the club, contact Francisco at 789-4054.

Francisco assures that everyone will be given the opportunity to take an exam to become licensed in operating a HAM radio. For those who just want to offer voluntary help, Francisco said the club is open to those too. **(Kimberly A. Bautista)**

COVID-19

From Page 1

The individuals have been transported to the quarantine facility, the Alternate Care Site at Kanoa Resort in Susupe, which is also the designated isolation area where CHCC staff will keep a close eye on infected individuals.

CHCC has already conducted the initial contact tracing for the most immediate contacts of the two new cases, including passengers on the same flight.

COVID-19 in Guam

The COVID-19 death toll I Guam has now reached 85.

According to the Joint Information Center, Guam’s 80th COVID-19-related fatality was pronounced dead on arrival at Guam Memorial Hospital at approximately 9:40pm last Tuesday, Nov. 3. The patient was a 63-year-old male with underlying

health conditions that were compounded by COVID-19. Additionally, he was a known COVID-19 case and was previously admitted to the U.S. Naval Hospital Guam.

JIC was then notified that Guam’s 81st COVID-19-related fatality occurred at approximately 11:18am last Wednesday, Nov. 4. The patient was a 49-year-old male with underlying health conditions that were further compounded by COVID-19. He was admitted to the Guam Memorial Hospital on Oct. 9 and was a known COVID-19 case. Later that same day, Guam’s 82nd COVID-19-related fatality occurred at approximately 4:06pm. The patient was a 55-year-old male with underlying conditions that were further compounded by COVID-19. He was admitted to GMH on Oct. 20 after testing positive at a private clinic earlier that day. That night, at 8:27pm, Guam saw its 83rd COVID-19-related fatality, a 55-year-old male with comorbidities that were further compounded

by COVID-19 who died at GMH. He was admitted to GMH on Oct. 20 and tested positive upon admission.

The 84th COVID-19-related fatality occurred at GMH yesterday—an 84-year-old male with underlying conditions that were further compounded by COVID-19. He was pronounced deceased at approximately 12:08am. He was admitted to GMH on Nov. 1 after testing positive upon admission at the Guam Regional Medical City the day prior.

The 85th COVID-19-related fatality also occurred at GMH at approximately 8:10am yesterday. The patient was a 56-year-old male with underlying conditions. He was admitted to GMH last Oct. 25 and was a known positive case.

“Each of us are soldiers in this fight, and victory requires us all to remain vigilant. We are the front-lines, and I call on the people of Guam to do what is right,” said Guam Gov. Lou Leon Guerrero. “May [their] memory be a blessing to all those who knew [them].”

IPI

From Page 1

date about the status of DPW’s stop-work order.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres suggested at a radio news briefing last week that DPW and IPI need to address that specific issue. “I hope that they can work things out,” Torres said.

The governor at the time said he has yet to be updated on that stop-order issue.

Browne earlier said they expect a quick resolution of the issue as they can’t afford any construction delays due to clerical issues, and that they are working diligently to resolve the matter with their engineers and resume construction at the Imperial Pacific Resort.

IPI received the stop-work order from DPW last Oct. 27. In its notice of violations, DPW’s Building Safety Code Division ordered IPI to stop work immediately until it complies with some requirements.

DPW suspended all construction work from the tower hotel’s Level 3 to Sky Level 14 until shop drawings and revised plans are submitted to and are approved by DPW’s Building Safety officer. DPW also suspended all welding work until special inspectors are on board and approved by the Building Safety officer. DPW said failure to comply may result in fees, civil penalties or fines, adding that its order will remain in effect until the Building Safety Division rescinds it.

PROPST

From Page 1

said in their letter that the governor is required to appoint Franklin Babauta, who was the unsuccessful candidate for the office in the 2018 election who received the highest number of votes. They said Babauta has publicly confirmed he is willing to serve. “It is our understanding that you have yet to reach out to him,” the lawmakers said.

They said the law is clear as the process for filling a vacancy in the Legislature is simple and straightforward. “The people of Precinct 1 are entitled to full representation in their House of Representatives, and you have a constitutional and statutory mandate to ensure that,” they said.

The lawmakers said the people of Precinct 1 have been underrepresent-

ed in the House since the resignation of Propst last Oct. 1.

Last week, House Speaker Blas Jonathan T. Attao (R-Saipan) notified Torres about his declaration of a vacancy at Precinct 1. Press secretary Kevin Bautista confirmed that the Governor’s Office received Attao’s official communication about the vacancy declaration.

Bautista said that, in line with Article II, Section 9 of the CNMI Constitution and with respect for the separation of powers between two equal branches of government, Torres “respectfully waited” for Attao to officially declare a vacancy before acting on the appointment.

“Moreover, in line with 1 CMC Section 6502 and historical precedent with other legislative vacancies, the governor has 30 days from the date of the declared vacancy to appoint the unsuccessful candidate for the office,” Bautista said.

The speaker asked Torres to appoint a representative for the vacant office as soon as possible so that Precinct 1 may resume its full representation in the House.

Babauta, who ran as an independent, landed seventh place in the last 2018 election for Precinct 1, where there are six House positions.

Babauta’s wife, Celina, won a House Precinct 1 seat under the Democratic Party during Tuesday’s election based on Commonwealth Election Commission’s unofficial tabulation results.

Propst resigned last Oct. 1; his term was supposed to end on Jan. 11, 2021. His name was still on the ballot for the Nov. 3 general elections, which he won handily despite not campaigning for the position. Propst received the highest number of votes among 14 candidates for Precinct 1 at Tuesday’s election based on CEC’s unofficial tabulation results.

HIX

From Page 1

leaders to unite to resolve ongoing challenges and to continue moving the Commonwealth forward for the community.

Hix assured people that she herself and the Democratic Party team will hold their candidates accountable.

“This is and will be a win for the people,” said Hix in response to *Saipan Tribune’s* request for statements about Democratic Party’s impressive performance during Tuesday’s general elections.

Hix said that people’s desire for change was expressed at the ballot boxes where the Democratic Party’s candidates ran a historic race. So far, about half of their slate have succeeded.

VETERANS

From Page 2

Though there are anti-COVID-19 rules that are against gathering, Iakopo said the OVA will have a small ceremony on Veterans Day that will celebrate and honor veterans for their patriotism and willingness to serve and sacrifice. “It will be a day set aside to remind us and think about the sacrifices of our veterans,” he said. “[In fact] we should be honoring our veterans every day and not just once a year.”

Brad Ruzsala, who heads the local chapter of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, stated that he’s thankful that

“We are ‘The People’s Party’ and the people have spoken,” she said.

The CEC board has yet to certify the winners as there are an estimated 50 to 100 absentee ballots that are expected to arrive on Nov. 17.

Based on CEC’s unofficial tabulation results, nine Democratic Party candidates prevailed. For Saipan Senate it’s Edith E. Deleon Guerrero, and for the House of Representatives they are former representative Edwin Kenneth Propst, Celina R. Babauta, Rep. Christina-Marie Elise Sablan, Denita K. Yangetmai, Vicente Castro Camacho, Sheila Therese Jack Babauta, Leila Haveia Fleming Staffler, and Rep. Richard Tudela Lizama.

A longer version of this story is available at www.saipantribune.com

we have a CNMI government that supports and honors the commitment made by the men and women of the CNMI.

“When we volunteer to serve, we do so without asking for recognition, but it sure is nice to know that when we come home from training or from deployments, that we have the support of a grateful community,” he said.

Ruzsala said that no one should feel pressured to do something to honor veterans; however, if they would like to show their support for the men and women who are deployed overseas, they can hang yellow ribbons around the island or show their support through their social media posts.

Interns' hourly rate in seven workers lawsuit is opposed

By **KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA**
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A subcontractor of Imperial Pacific International LLC, who was named a defendant in the lawsuit filed by seven construction workers, has opposed the attorney fees for two persons involved in the case, saying they are considered interns.

Gold Mantis Construction Decoration (CNMI) LLC, a former subcontractor and contractor of IPI, is opposing the rate of \$160 per hour for two law interns requested by one of the lawyers of the seven construction workers, Aaron Halegua of New York.

Gold Mantis lawyer Tiberius Mocanu opposes the \$160 hourly rate for the two law student interns, Yun Zhang and Lulu Sun. Mocanu said a former paralegal of Halegua was paid \$125 an hour, and the two interns are not law school graduates.

"It is reasonable to conclude that much of the work they performed could have been performed by a seasoned paralegal," Mocanu said.

Mocanu argues that there is no U.S. Attorney's Office attorney's fees matrix available for a law student intern. Instead the only category that comes close is paralegals and clerks. "Thus, in order to determine what has been found reasonable for interns, this court should look to cases which have addressed the prevailing rate for legal interns. Seventy-five dollars per hour [is] an appropriate fee in the Eastern District of New York," Mocanu said.

Generally, he said, hourly rates may be increased or reduced based on the complexity of the litigation. Mocanu states that the work performed did not touch on the complexities of bringing a claim under Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act. "The work performed was basic



Halegua



Mocanu

research regarding discoverable material and composing a motion to compel. This type of work is not specialized but is instead standard legal work that any summer associate could have performed."

Consequently, as there is case law from the general New York area supporting an hourly rate of between \$75 and \$1,000 an hour, Mocanu said the court should reduce the hourly rate of the two interns to \$85 an hour.

He said the plaintiffs' entire request for attorney's fees should be reduced by 25% as a portion of the work performed in bringing the motion to compel as well as the motion for attorney's fees was already completed as it is a duplication of the effort in filing a motion to compel against IPI as well as a motion for attorney fees.

Halegua, recently asked the District Court for the NMI to issue an order awarding them attorney's fees in the amount of \$30,517.80.



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Customs intercepts ice, other drugs at post office

Over 300 grams of crystal methamphetamine, also known as "ice," and other drugs were intercepted by CNMI Customs at the U.S. Post Office in Chalan Kanoa in the last 45 days.

Cocaine and LSD were

among the other controlled substances that were imported via mail.

"Throughout the years we maintain collaboration with local and federal law enforcement agencies. Through a memorandum of understand-

ing with the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, we are able to coordinate resources to eliminate money laundering and the illicit importation, distribution, and possession of controlled substances," said Customs director Jose

C. Mafnas.

Customs continues to seize marijuana as well as edibles and THC paraphernalia. In January 2020, Customs seized over 2.12 lbs of crystal methamphetamine.

"Our goal is to eradicate the

use, sale, and distribution of narcotics in the CNMI. While we [still have] a long way [to go], we can at least control what enters our island borders and reduce the street value crystal meth and other drugs," added Mafnas. (PR)

'Buy in the CNMI' this holiday season

This holiday season, the Saipan Chamber of Commerce is asking the CNMI community to support local businesses, artists, and vendors by making all your purchases locally during the "Buy in the CNMI" campaign.

"Our local businesses are the lifeblood of our community. Every purchase at an on-island business goes back to our community through taxes, donations, and the creation of local jobs. By keeping our dollars locally, we can invest in each other as an investment in our community," said

the Chamber in a statement yesterday.

For this upcoming holiday season, the Chamber asks that you spend all purchases at local businesses, then share with your family and friends why it is important to support local.

Additionally, the Chamber will be hosting a social media "Buy in the CNMI" campaign, with a sweepstakes opportunity to win \$500 in gift certificates to the Chamber member establishments of the winner's choice. To enter to win the sweepstakes on Facebook or Instagram:



MONEY TALK

Mount Carmel School's senior class of 2021 meet with the CNMI Scholarship team to discuss financial aid opportunities as they prepare for Early Action applications. For more information about Mount Carmel School's College Preparatory program, visit www.mountcar-melsaipan.com.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

1. Post a picture at one of our Chamber member establishments, and write why it's important to "Buy in the CNMI" in the post. Chamber members will have a "Buy in the CNMI" sticker on their door, or can be found by visiting saipanchamber.com/buy-in-the-cnmi.
2. Include #BuyintheCNMISweepstakes in the post.
3. Tag the Chamber's Facebook or Instagram accounts.

No purchase is necessary to enter or win. The contest will run from Nov. 6 to Nov. 30, which includes "Small Business Saturday" on Nov. 28. The winner will be randomly selected from the above criteria at the Chamber's Dec. 2 general membership meeting. For a full list of sweepstake rules, visit saipanchamber.com/buyinthe-cnmi.

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce is a non-profit organization whose mission is to empower our enterprises as a resource, advocate, and connector for Saipan's private sector. For more information on the sweepstakes or the Chamber, visit saipanchamber.com/buyinthe-cnmi, www.facebook.com/spnchamber, or Instagram at @saipanchamber; call 234-7150; or visit the fourth floor of the Marianas Business Plaza (Room 413). (PR)

AMP recruiting for paid internship

The American Memorial Park is seeking a reliable, energetic, and outgoing person to join their team as the new Community Volunteer Ambassador. The CVA will work to recruit volunteers to support the park as well as develop volunteer opportunities to meet the needs of the park and the community.

The CVA program is part of AmeriCorps and Stewards Individual Placements in partnership with the National Park Service. Stewards Individual Placements provides individuals with service and career opportunities to strengthen communities and preserve our natural resources. During their internship, the CVA will be expected to work 40 hours a week for 50 weeks and will be provided a living allowance

of \$440 per week. In addition to the weekly allowance, the CVA will receive a \$6,095 (pre-tax) AmeriCorps Award that can be used toward education costs. To be eligible, applicants must be high school graduates, between the ages of 18-30 (up to 35 years old if you are a veteran), a U.S. citizen or permanent resident, and comfortable working outside for extended periods of time. The deadline to apply is Nov. 20, 2020.

To learn more about the CVA opportunity, review additional qualifications, and to apply visit the CVA website at: <https://www.cvainternships.org/pwr> and click on American Memorial Park or contact AMP ranger Brooke Nevitt at brooke_nevitt@nps.gov. (PR)

SINMI meeting on No. 12

The Soroptimist of the Northern Mariana Islands Club will be holding its monthly luncheon meeting on Thursday, Nov. 12, at noon at Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan's World Cafe. The cost of the luncheon is \$17.

The Soroptimist motto is "Best for Women" and has clubs in 120 countries, working toward bettering the lives

of women and girls in their communities. Soroptimist International will be celebrating its 100th birthday next year!

The meeting is open to the public, and we would love to have you join us! For more information, contact club president Marilyn Marron at marilyn.marron@dandq-international.com. (PR)



DIVISION OF COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

P. O. Box 501304, Saipan MP 96950 | Gualo Rai Center, Saipan

TEL. NO. 664-8300 | FAX NO. 664-8315

www.dcrm.gov.mp



NOTICE OF APPLICATION

As of November 5, 2020

THE FOLLOWING IS A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF COASTAL PERMIT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY THE DCRM OFFICE:

APPLICANT	DATE APPLICATION RECEIVED	APPLICATION PROJECT DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	TYPE	STATUS
1. YCO Corporation dba YCO True Value Hardware Stores	10/20/2020 SSm-2013-X-043-A1	Construction of True Value Hardware Garden Shed Extension	Garapan, Saipan	Shoreline	Approved 10/27/2020
2. Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Judiciary	10/22/2020 SMS-93-X-30-A1	COVID-19 Screening & Security Zone	Susupe, Saipan	Major Siting Amendment	Approved 10/27/2020
3. U.S. Department of Interior, National Park Services	10/29/2020 SSWm-2021-004	Rehabilitate Amphitheater Walkway & Seating and to Install Solar Power, Fire Hydrants & Drainage	Garapan, Saipan	Shoreline, Wetland	Approved* 11/05/2020
4. P&A Corporation	10/30/2020 SMS-96-X-020-A1	Winners Multi-Commercial Facilities	San Antonio, Saipan	Major Siting Amendment	Under Review

NMIAC §15-10-210 of the CRM Rules and Regulations requires all permit applications to be published in a newspaper for general circulation within the CNMI within 15 days of receipt of application. The list reflects recently received permit applications and those with a recent change in status. New applications are marked with an asterisk (*).

The Public is invited to submit written comments regarding any of the above projects for which a permit decision has not been issued. All permit comments should identify the project by application number. Your comments should be mailed or hand-delivered to the DCRM Office. All persons who desire a public hearing regarding any project may do so by submitting a written request for a public hearing to the DCRM Office within fourteen (14) days for minor permits (APCs) and proposed amended major sitings. Public Hearings are required for all new major siting projects. All public hearing notices are published in a local newspaper of general circulation. Residents of Rota and Tinian may submit comments and hearing requests to their local DCRM Coordinator. Persons wishing to retain the right to appeal a DCRM Permit decision must file a notice of appeal with the DCRM office within thirty (30) days of the issuance of the DCRM permit decision as provided in Part 200 § 15-10-235 of the DCRM Regulations.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN RE THE MATTER OF)
TERMINATION OF)
PARENTAL RIGHTS)
FOR Zhi En Yin)
and Fu Xing Yin,)
minor children.,)
By: JUN ZHANG,)
Petitioner.)

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Ms. Jun Zhang ("Ms. Zhang"), petitioned to this Court for a decree granting her sole parental rights for Zhi En Yin, a female child born in the Commonwealth Healthcare Center on March 18, 2010 and Fu Xing Yin, a male child born in the Commonwealth Healthcare Center on November 23, 2008 ("Minor Children"), and terminating the parental rights of Mr. Yin Sheng Qiu, the biological father of the Minor Children.

A hearing on the Petition for Termination of Parental Rights is hereby set for December 2, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. in the CNMI Superior Court before Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio. Any interested party may appear at that hearing.

Ms. Zhang shall publish notice of the December 2, 2020 hearing once at least one week before the hearing in a newspaper of general circulation in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Petitioner shall also post notice on the Saipan Courthouse Public Notice Board for a period of at least ten consecutive (10) calendar days before the set hearing date.

IT IS SO ORDERED, this 23rd day of October, 2020.

HONORABLE TERESA KIM-TENORIO
Associate Judge

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH 2020

Across our islands and beyond, we got together with the goal to end domestic violence during October. Even during unprecedented times, your partnership and support was still there and spoke volumes to our community, as well as to victims and survivors of domestic violence.

Thank you for embracing Domestic Violence Awareness Month (DVAM) as an opportunity to advocate for a safer home and community especially for our children, as well as for victims and survivors who need our love and support. It truly takes all of us, all of our voices, together to end the silence of domestic violence.

Our most heartfelt thanks goes out to survivors, their families, and the families of those who lost someone to domestic violence. Your extraordinary courage in facing each day and hope that we can, as a community, break the cycle of violence is inspiring and motivation for this movement.

Thank you also to the first responders, service providers, and advocates who continue to work diligently to serve victims, survivors, and their families. Last, but not least, we at the Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence express our sincere appreciation and gratitude to all the following volunteers, donors, and partners for the tremendous support during DVAM.

Although DVAM has ended, much remains to be done. We hope everyone will continue to speak out on violence, work to create a safer CNMI, and empower each other with HOPE.

 *Thank You.*
Si Yu'us Ma'ase.
Ghilisou Reemi!

- Gov. Ralph DLG Torres
- Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios
- Benilyn Mettao
- Bishop Ryan P. Jimenez
- Calvani P. Deleon Guerrero
- Cecilia Camacho
- Celina Romolor-Route
- Christopher Cabrera
- Dan Brown
- Daryl Ubarra
- Dixie I. Camacho
- Elora Masga
- Emelda P. Camacho
- Erica Olsen
- Eulalia V. Arriola
- Family of Ana Maria P. Limes
- Family of Erlinse C. Santos
- Family of Francisca B. Camacho
- Family of Joana S. Vitug
- Family of June A. Sandbergen
- Family of Leonor S. Miranda
- Family of Rosalia T. Teigita
- Family of Vicky Ann M. Igitol
- Femie Rey
- Frederick Fatialofa
- Genelin Camacho
- Glenda George
- Hee Jung "Chloe" Sin
- Jamie Saures
- Jenna Mauliola
- Jennifer Maratita
- John L. Aguon

- Joshua Tenorio
- Kennedy Benjamin
- Kevin Maratita
- Kim Mendiola
- Kim Pentico
- Kimiko Tenorio
- Laura Kyonka
- Lorieyn C. Lacay
- Malina Rose B. Tenorio
- Malysa Castro
- Marian May Guerrero
- Mariana B. Tenorio
- Neda C. Deleon Guerrero
- Patrick George
- Pina Magofna
- Renedel Buno
- Rhine Russell
- Rose Rios
- Shannon Tudela Sasamoto
- Sharina Clark
- Sharleen Sablan
- Shirley Camacho Ogumoro
- Weena Gwen Iguel
- Wilma Villanueva

ORGANIZATIONS

- CHCC Maternal Child Health Bureau
- CHCC-CGC Garrett Lee Smith Youth Suicide Prevention Program
- CHCC-CGC System of Care
- CHCC-CGC Wellness Clinic

- CNMI Department of Public Lands
- CNMI Public School System
- CNMI Women's Affairs Office
- CNMI Women's Association
- Cornerstone Christian Church
- DCCA Division of Youth Services
- Department of Fire & Emergency Medical Services
- Department of Public Lands
- Department of Public Safety
- Diocese of Chalan Kanoa
- Grace Christian Assembly
- Interact Club of Saipan
- Karidat Social Services
- Micronesian Legal Services Corp.
- National Network to End Domestic Violence
- Northern Marianas College
- Northern Marianas Protection & Advocacy Systems, Inc.
- Office of Adult Probation
- Office of the Attorney General
- Pride Marianas Youth
- Society of Human Resource Management
- Stellar Marianas

DONORS

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- Garapan Restaurant

- Inas Kitchen
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- Senator Sixto K. Igisomar
- Senator Vinnie Sablan
- Tan Siu Lin Foundation
- THE HUT
- The Shack

ROTA

- Avery Hocog
- CHCC-CGC System of Care
- CHCC-CGC Wellness Clinic
- DCCA Division of Youth Services
- Deliza Udui
- Department of Public Safety
- Doralynn Barcinas
- Dr. Rita Hocog Jr. & Sr. High School
- Elvira Mesngon
- Fr. Rey Rosal
- Glengela Guiang
- Melody Fredrick

- Mildred Sikebert
- Monalyn Oderiong
- Pastor John Manglona
- Rota Health Center
- Rota Superior Court
- Sabrina Calvo
- Team Alibiu

TINIAN

- Mayor Edwin P. Aldan
- Augusta B. Famaw-King
- Lillian C. Cepeda
- Sylvia C. San Nicolas
- Dennis P. Borja
- Vicenta B. Villagomez
- Bernadita C. Palacios
- Keith K. Nabors
- Frances Diaz
- Rodney Carbales
- Patricia San Nicolas
- Tano SN. King
- Jesse San Nicolas
- Office of the Mayor of Tinian and Aguigan
- DCCA Division of Youth Services
- Tinian Health Center
- Department of Public Safety
- Tinian Municipal Council
- Tinian Legislative Delegation
- Team KOKA/Voices of the CNMI - Tinian Chapter

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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AP The Associated Press

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EDITORIAL

The election is over. Now our nation must find unity

After a bruising and often bitter election cycle, how does a divided nation heal?

The answer involves something much harder than campaigning or championing your own cause. Regardless of the results, and we released this piece for publication before the final results were in, the truth is that healing the divisions of a large and diverse nation like this begins with all of us doing all we can, as individuals and as part of the body politic, to avoid further divisions.

Behind political fractures are extensive histories of problems and grievances, some quite evident and unresolved, others buried in political narratives and ruminations that deviously distort reality. Narratives become weaponized as blame, excuses and ideological justifications, effectively recirculating the same virus in the echo-sphere.

Welcome to America 2020, a nation divided by pandemic, politics and polemics.

We are the United States of America but much about our present suggests that we could just as easily be called the Untied States of America. We share common values, or so we wish to believe, but also have allowed conspiracy theories, naked exercise of power and selective interpretations of selective facts, or in the absence of facts, fantasies and outright lies, to drive our interactions.

For example, in Washington, D.C., the co-equal branches of government should draw us together and moderate our most extreme impulses. Instead, they have served, often by design, to drive us apart and to amplify the divisions on social media with scant regard to truth or consequences.

The United States has avoided becoming the Untied States because it has a robust guiding document — the United States Constitution—to bind together diverse interests. When we find reasons, including baseless conspiracy theories, to fray this delicate relationship, we're playing with fire.

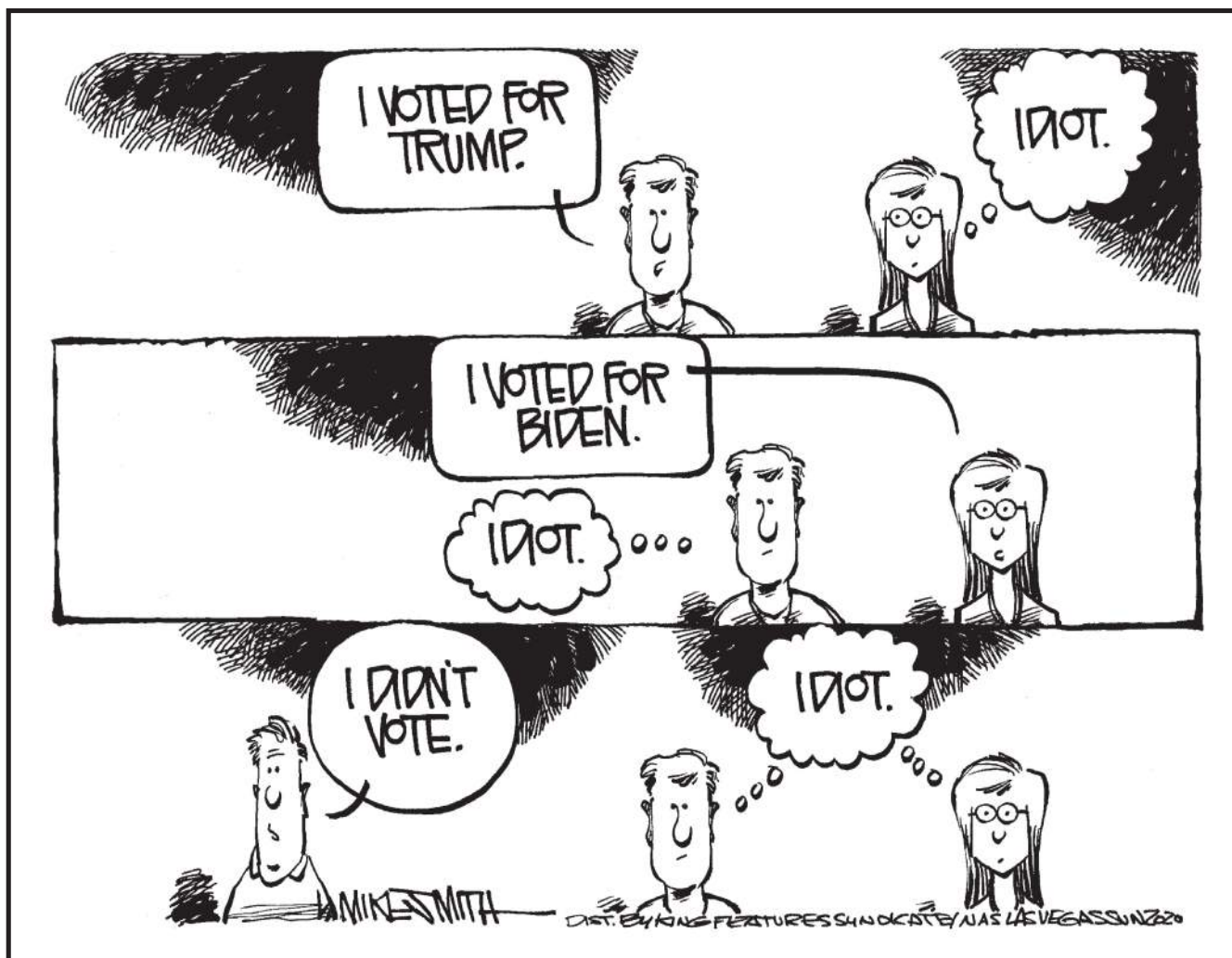
America is undergoing ideological, religious, political and economic schisms that test basic American beliefs in ways this nation has yet to grasp. Futurist Juan Enriquez raised this about 15 years ago in his book "The Untied States of America: Polarization, Fracturing and Our Future," where he broached the unsettling thought that no nation has remained preeminent forever.

It's something most of us know from even a cursory study of history, but Americans aren't predisposed to contemplate schism as a possibility in our future. Our hemisphere has been remarkably stable so a time of upheaval seems impossible.

But history marks turmoil. Britain and Spain once had great naval fleets. Latin is a dead language. The pound was once a leading currency and the euro didn't exist. Nations have been partitioned and repartitioned, and most countries in the United Nations weren't there 50 years ago.

America can't shirk from its challenges, which we do

See **ELECTION** on Next Page



How America has changed

Politicians like to say there is more that unites us than divides us.

That may be true, but not necessarily in a good way. Or maybe the bigger truth is that there are two countries in the U.S. One's motto is "Every man for himself." The other's: "Leave no man behind."

We may now live in the confusing, dyspeptic world of both. We have changed.

We are less naive, but more selfish. We used to think that sending our American soldiers to foreign lands could resolve centuries of feuding and inhumane treatment of one people by another, often because of religious differences. Now, in exchange for the blood, sweat and tears of our young men and women, we demand money or oil or some form of payment.

We used to be admired for friendliness and acceptance of strangers. Fewer of us welcome the downtrodden, displaced and disheartened to our shores. Officially, if you don't have money, this country does not want you.

We are less loyal. We reject old allies because they hold mirrors to our faces; we scorn them as useless. We form hateful alliances with demagogues and dictators who flatter, intimidate and entice us with access to their markets or resources.

We are less reliable. Our word is no longer our bond. We don't automatically have each other's back. The rest of the world does not know what we stand for. The rule of law? Facts? Jailing opponents? Trying to steal elections? Some see us as pitiable and vulnerable to decay from within. In some places we are mocked. We invite the best and the brightest to our universities and then deport them.

Our leaders are hypocritical. They refuse to honor the Constitution, in one case refusing to consider a legitimate nominee for the Supreme Court, and then ramming through another nominee without due process. Hypocrisy is seen as expedient and unavoidable, not reprehensible.

We used to believe we could export democracy. Now we are not even sure what democracy is. The candidate with the most votes does not always win. Our courts do not always protect the concept of one person, one vote, especially if that person is old, of a different color, of a different belief system, of a different ancestry, of a different political persuasion or someone in a pandemic who mails in her ballot.

We used to be a religious country. Now we are not. We worship status and celebrity. Many of us follow cults or meet weekly to sing and feel good but often do not lead moral lives. Many passionately support life for an unborn fetus but also believe the state has a right to take life, that health care can be rationed, that felons

By **ANN MCFEATTERS**
Tribune News Service

Ann McFeatters is an op-ed columnist for Tribune News Service. Readers may send her email at amcfeatters@nationalpress.com.



may have guns, that separating children from parents is acceptable or that letting killer viruses run rampant is not objectionable.

We have less respect for each other. Thousands of us refuse to wear masks because we don't care that we might inadvertently make someone sick enough to die or spend weeks on a ventilator or carry the virus home to a vulnerable relative. Freedom's just another word for letting someone else lose everything.

We think uncouth behavior is funny and tolerable. We shrug our shoulders in indifference to vulgarity. Once we tried to root out corruption. Now we look away.

Mendacity is Ok. We punish children for lying but many of us expect adults to prevaricate without consequence. We don't yearn for truth.

We subscribe to ridiculous conspiracy theories because we have nothing to rely on, no inner core and no common sense voice whispering, "This is nonsense." We have given up on logic.

Ignorance does not disturb us. Fewer of us respect learning. We do not try to find out what is going on in our world. We isolate ourselves and seem to relish how provincial we have become.

We do not trust anything. Certainly not institutions such as government, churches, sports, big business, the postal service or even neighborhood associations.

We are neither as can-do nor as competent as we were. We went to the moon because we could. We started a Peace Corps because we could. We twice saved the world. Our computers revolutionized everything. We vowed to end poverty. It was hard. We gave up. We lost our jobs because other workers did them cheaper. We vowed to end racism. It was hard. We got frustrated, and too many said it couldn't be done.

We present ourselves to much of the rest of the world as bigoted and soulless.

This country is not the same as it was four years ago. History will decide if that's partly good or all bad.

At least, a lot of us voted.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Confronting the new American poverty

There's a new American poverty, and it's spreading through every corner of our nation.

The visuals are familiar: boarded-up homes, abandoned downtowns and shuttered factories. But underneath the visible signs of economic decline, a new social and cultural order has quietly established itself in all of the forgotten cities of the American interior.

I spent five years documenting three of these communities—Youngstown, Ohio; Memphis, Tennessee; and Stockton, California—for a feature documentary called “America Lost.” Fifty years ago, all three were exemplars of economic and social progress. What happened next has become conventional wisdom: the old industrial economy was automated and outsourced, the new high-growth industries were centralized in coastal megacities and places like Youngstown, Memphis and Stockton fell into a half-century of decline.

But this is merely the beginning of the story. As I demonstrate in the film, the new American poverty is not primarily an economic phenomenon—it has become a social, familial and psychological problem that reaches the very foundations of our social order.

American communities have always navigated changing economic structures, but this is the first time that the social fabric itself has been shredded. Since Daniel Patrick Moynihan's warning in 1965, the “tangle of pathology”—family breakdown, labor force dropout and chronic poverty—has wrapped itself around every region and demographic group in the country. It is now the dominant reality for more than 50 million Americans.

At the neighborhood level—which is to say, the level of human experience—the statistical portrait is devastating.

In Youngstown's 44509 ZIP code, 41% of all working-age men are unemployed or out of the labor force, and 69% of all families are headed by a single mother. In Memphis' 38126 ZIP code, the numbers are even worse—only 20% of all working-age men are employed full-time throughout the year and, out of nearly 6,000 total residents, there are only 10 nuclear families.

In short, the process of atomization that Moynihan feared has reached its grim conclusion. For people in these neighborhoods, the norm of intact families, steady employment and community participation has vanished.

What can be done? In the recent debate about what to do with America's “forgotten cities,” policymakers on the left and right have focused on how to revive these places economically, but this framing misses the point. The reality is that, despite a half-century of debate, neither side has managed to present a viable solution to the problem of economic and social decline.

The dominant liberal proposition—welfare state intervention—has failed to improve conditions in these communities; if anything, it has solidified them. At the same time, the dominant conservative proposition—targeted tax cuts and moral exhortation—has lost the cultural foundation that would make it meaningful.

Unfortunately, as the ideas of both left and right have exhausted themselves politically and empirically, the status quo remains. The United States continues to spend more than \$1 trillion per year on means-tested benefit programs, and policymakers engage in a fruitless debate about “opportunity zones” and “expanded benefits,” neither of which would address the deeper social pathologies in places like Youngstown,

By CHRISTOPHER F. RUFO

The Heritage Foundation

Christopher F. Rufo is a visiting fellow in Domestic Policy Studies at The Heritage Foundation (heritage.org). You can watch his film at www.americalostfilm.com/premiere.



Memphis and Stockton.

And yet, despite spending five years treading across this vast graveyard of American social institutions, I concluded my work on “America Lost” with a sense of hope. Not in any grand scheme or policy proposal, but in the innate capacities of human beings.

Contrary to the approach of the social scientists, who would reduce man to a mathematical variable, I caught a glimpse of the inner workings of human inspiration, which defies the rational and the mathematical. I watched a hardened felon break down in tears about his scattered family. I saw a single mother clutching her daughter's high school diploma. I saw the tattooed hands of a wayward father bring his newborn son into the world.

Ultimately, although the social institutions in America's forgotten cities have been battered down for half a century, there is something inside the human spirit that refuses to forget the meaning of faith, family and community. This should be the starting point for policymakers: how to remove the obstacles to these universal human impulses. Only then will we see the chance for widespread renewal.

Former officer: Teaching police to de-escalate through words, rather than force, could save lives

When I watched the video of Philadelphia police fatally shooting Walter Wallace Jr., as he apparently experienced a mental health crisis, I asked myself: What other options did the officers have?

Were they able to maintain distance and safety? Did they have time to allow Wallace to pace in an agitated state, but not threaten the lives of those around him?

As a former officer myself, I am realistic in my consideration of what options officers can utilize in these scenarios.

While in the police academy in the late 1990s, I was trained every day, for six months, on defensive tactics. It was ingrained in us how to force compliance utilizing physical de-escalation tactics. We were trained on how to gain and maintain control of a situation and the people involved. We were trained to act, to do something, with adrenaline rushing through our veins. We were trained to command and control; we were not trained to communicate. Little time was spent on the art of verbal de-escalation in highly charged, potentially life or death situations. And from what I understand, that's still largely the case.

Officers are not typically held in high regard for de-escalating situations verbally. Officers are respected for their willingness and ability to force compliance with physical tactics. And the muscle memory most officers have is with physical de-escalation: defensive tactics, drawing weapons from their holsters, pointing and shooting. But our muscle memory could be to think and communicate in these situations—with the right training and a department-wide emphasis on the value of such an approach.

When officers are trained to think before acting, officers can then begin to handle situations where a person is having a mental health crisis or emotional disturbance with compassion and empathy. Imagine if, instead of commanding an upset person to calm down, an officer allowed them the space to yell and scream as they struggle to control their out-of-control emotions. If officers were given as much training in verbal de-escalation as defensive tactics, we might avoid more scenarios like that involving Walter Wallace Jr.

Officers are capable of handling high stress, life or death situations without firing their weapons or even pulling them. We routinely attend firearms training: shoot/don't shoot scenarios. Why not attend training in which firearms are not an option? Why not bring in role players to scream at officers? Make threatening statements? Why not role play real life

By CYNDI GRACE

The Baltimore Sun

Cyndi Grace (thegracefam@hotmail.com) served in law enforcement in Virginia for 12 years. She now resides in Maryland.



scenarios in which our only option is to think and de-escalate the situation verbally? This is a skill that must be taught and practiced. Officers are typically required to requalify with their firearms every year. Why aren't officers required to train and retrain using our minds and voices to de-escalate high stress situations?

While it is important to have less lethal options available such as a Taser or bean bag shotguns, it is even more imperative officers are trained to communicate, not solely command. I am not advocating for an officer to approach a person empty-handed and attempt to remove a knife, or asking an officer to attempt to rationalize with a person having a mental health crisis. Rationalizing with an irrational mind will likely only lead to a more highly charged situation. I am advocating that they be taught to communicate and judge when a person needs room to wind down without having orders barked at them.

Some situations evolve so rapidly, so violently, that there is no other option but to fire your weapon in self-defense. I am not speaking about those situations, where an officer is in fear for their life. There are shootings however, that may be avoided with attempts to communicate and de-escalate verbally. Officers must be trained that there are situations when time, patience and maintaining safe distance is not only an acceptable response, but a highly respected one. It is imperative this change in police culture and training begins now.

ELECTION

From Page 8

when we fail to embrace immigration reform and economic globalization, reject allies, and embrace nativism. Arguably, the isolationist sentiment in the United States now rivals the level in the years immediately after the Vietnam War and the end of the Cold War, or even America's isolationist sentiment during the 1930s that, among other things, ushered in anti-competitive economic policies such as the Smoot-Hawley Tariff of 1930, which some economists say caused or prolonged the Great Depression.

As citizens we performed our right to vote in extraordinary numbers. Now our obligation is to a Constitution that promises inclusion and a system of government built on checks and balances.

It is fruitless to imagine that the divergent views of our political past and present will suddenly align. Our national focus must be on how to improve the present and future, and to stop peddling fear and justifications for not having the tough conversations that we must have. This will be a slow and arduous process, but the alternative — increasing division — is unthinkable.

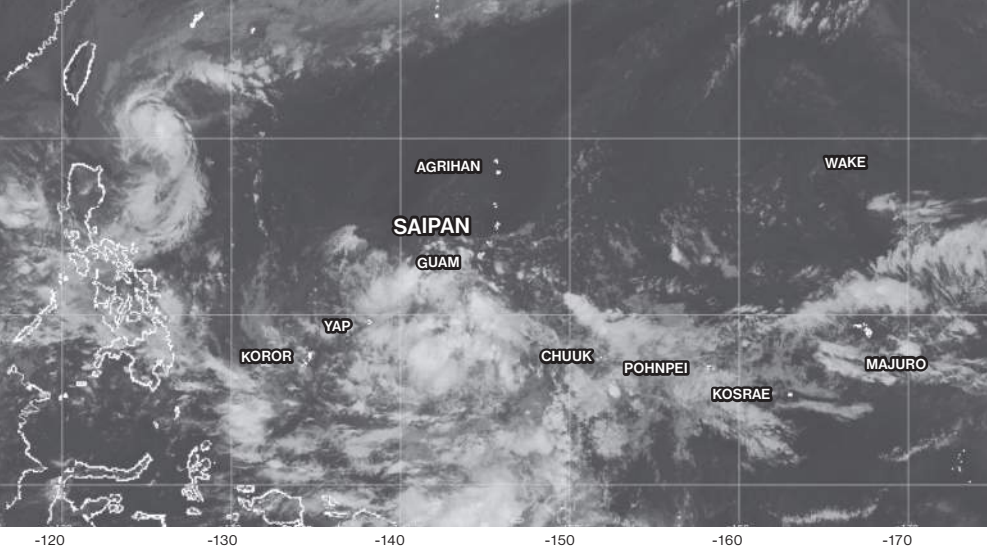
At some point, all nations face challenges to core principles from within or from outside their borders. Many times before, Americans have confronted our internal doubts peacefully, with a moral resolve that gives lie to those who would have a nation that doesn't insist on equality under the law.

Our healing must start now.

(c) 2020 *The Dallas Morning News*

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN									
TODAY		SATURDAY		SUNDAY		MONDAY		TUESDAY	
Partly sunny and breezy. Isolated showers in the morning, then scattered showers in the afternoon. East winds 15 to 25 mph.		Partly sunny and breezy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 25 mph.		Mostly cloudy. Isolated showers and thunderstorms.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers.		Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	
87°	77°	87°	77°	87°	77°	87°	77°	87°	77°
YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE									



PICTURE TIME: 8:40 AM, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2020
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Guam Doppler weather radar shows isolated showers moving through the Northern Marianas Waters and scattered showers near and south of the Guam waters. The buoys reveal combined seas of 6 to 8 feet, mainly composed of an east-northeast trade-wind swell.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

STOP THE SPREAD

The Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. continue to encourage residents within the Marianas to practice social distancing, which means avoiding close contact with people in order to avoid catching the virus yourself and to avoid passing it on to others.

- Stay home as much as possible. Avoid unnecessary travel or public places.
- Avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10.
- Choose drive-thru, take-out, or delivery options, or outdoor seating, if available, when dining in.
- Send only one healthy adult from the household run necessary errands, such as getting groceries or picking up medications. Leave children, elderly, and other vulnerable people at home as much as possible. When returning home from an errand, wash your hands before doing anything else.
- Older adults and people with chronic medical conditions are at higher risk of getting very sick from this illness. People at high risk should stay at home as much as possible.
- Create a household plan of action, <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/checklisthousehold-ready.html>
- Ensure a 30-day supply of all medicines.

Continue good hand hygiene

- Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, avoid touching your face, cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your sleeve.
- Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available.

Know the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and what to do if you become symptomatic

- Stay home when you are sick and if you recently traveled to a place with COVID-19. Self-quarantine means:
 - Choosing a room in your house that can be used to separate sick household members from others.
 - Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20

seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

- Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Limiting visitors

CHCC appreciates the patience and understanding of the community at this time. To obtain general information about the CNMI COVID-19 response, contact the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force Hotline at 287-0046, 287-0489, 287-1089. These numbers are available Monday to Sunday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For medical information about COVID-19, reach out to the COVID-19 Infoline at the following numbers: 285-1672/1352. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For mental health support and helpful tips during a crisis, call the Mental Health Support Line at 285-1856, 323-6560, 323-6561 These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30 pm. For the 24/7 Disaster Distress Helpline, call SAMSHA at 1-800-985-5990.

For more information about DIY face coverings, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html>

For more information about CHCC programs, follow CHCC on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter at @cnmichcc, check out our website at www.chcc.gov.mp or call us at (670) 234-8950.

For more information on the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, visit www.governor.gov.mp and, follow @GovernorCNMI on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

This health advisory may be found online at <http://www.chcc.gov.mp/pressrelease.html> and at www.governor.gov.mp/covid-19.

Rumor control

During crises like this, oftentimes the spread of misinformation is just as dangerous as the virus itself. The CNMI is reminded to only share official and verified notices, press releases, and advisories from the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and CHCC.

Source: Office of the Governor

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235.3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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MICRONESIA			▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	84° / 78°	
Palau	Thunderstorms	84° / 78°	
Yap	Thunderstorms	84° / 79°	
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	87° / 80°	
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	86° / 78°	
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	86° / 78°	
Majuro	Thunderstorms	85° / 81°	

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:14 AM	5:46 PM
Saturday	6:15 AM	5:45 PM
Sunday	6:15 AM	5:45 PM
Monday	6:16 AM	5:45 PM
Tuesday	6:16 AM	5:45 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	10:43 AM	10:12 PM
Saturday	-	11:35 AM	11:07 PM
Sunday	-	12:25 PM	-
Monday	12:04 AM	1:13 PM	-
Tuesday	1:02 AM	1:59 PM	-

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Showers	66° / 61°	
Beijing	Sunny	64° / 37°	
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	79° / 72°	
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	83° / 72°	
London	Sunny	52° / 43°	
Los Angeles	Showers	63° / 55°	
Manila	Thunderstorms	88° / 79°	
Melbourne	Cloudy	57° / 48°	
Miami	Partly Cloudy	81° / 74°	
New York	Rain	72° / 50°	
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	72° / 59°	
Paris	Mostly Sunny	52° / 36°	
Busan	Partly Cloudy	66° / 55°	
Rome	Partly Cloudy	61° / 48°	
Salem	Sunny	83° / 60°	
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	58° / 44°	
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	64° / 48°	
Tokyo	Sunny	68° / 55°	
Washington, DC	Rain	75° / 53°	

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
4:50 AM	LOW TIDE	-0.19	
12:26 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.63	
5:54 PM	LOW TIDE	1.23	
9:53 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.46	

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF NOVEMBER 1, 2020

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA117	6:55am	7:35am	1, 4, 6	UA174	5:10am	5:51am	1, 4, 6
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
UA117/183	6:55am	9:50pm	1 via Guam	UA184/174	10:40pm	5:51am+1	3, 5 via Guam
GUAM-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-GUAM			
UA183	8:00pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 5	UA184	10:40pm	4:30am+1	1, 3, 5

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 8, 2020

SAIPAN TO ROTA				1205	11:00	11:15	Temporarily Unavailable
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	1206	12:00	12:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1301	8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri	1207	13:00	13:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1302	11:00AM	11:30AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri	1208	14:00	14:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1303	3:30PM	4:00PM	Mon/Wed/Fri	1209	15:00	15:15	Daily
ROTA TO SAIPAN				1210	16:00	16:15	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	1211	17:00	17:15	Temporarily Unavailable
3101	9:30AM	10:00AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri	1212	18:00	18:15	Temporarily Unavailable
3102	12:00AM	12:30AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri	TINIAN TO SAIPAN			
3103	4:30PM	5:00PM	Mon/Wed/Fri	FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
ROTA TO GUAM				2101	7:30	7:45	Temporarily Unavailable
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	2102	8:30	8:45	Daily
3401	12:15	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable	2103	9:30	9:45	Daily
GUAM TO ROTA				2104	10:30	10:45	Temporarily Unavailable
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	2105	11:30	11:45	Temporarily Unavailable
4301	13:00	13:30	Temporarily Unavailable	2106	12:30	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable
SAIPAN TO TINIAN				2107	13:30	13:45	Temporarily Unavailable
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	2108	14:30	14:45	Temporarily Unavailable
1201	7:00	7:15	Temporarily Unavailable	2109	15:30	15:45	Daily
1202	8:00	8:15	Daily	2110	16:30	16:45	Daily
1203	9:00	9:15	Daily	2111	17:30	17:45	Temporarily Unavailable
1204	10:00	10:15	Temporarily Unavailable	2112	18:30	18:45	Temporarily Unavailable

MCS names students to Q1 President's List and Honor Roll

Mount Carmel School congratulates these students for making it to the 1st Quarter President's List & Honor Roll.

PRESIDENT'S LIST

Students must have a GPA of 4.00 or above and must attain character marks of VG or above.



1st Grade
Carina Guerrero
Ezekiel Ma'Nu'l Vil-lagomez
Jake Hiram Maratita
Jamara Jayde Cabrera-Sablan
Johannah Dior Ogo
Kaiya Isabel Pangelinan
Khoen Alexander
Coldeen Torres
Lucia Jauhn Deleon
Guerrero
Prescott Jonathan
Cabrera
Sinako Annette Leiyang-scheng Tagabuel
Yuna Yu

2nd Grade
Aiyana Pangelinan
Alesa Ilmova
Anah Bellah Guerrero
Clarise Garamonte
Friella Huanne Dela Santa
Ian James De Leon
Ivan Fernand Fortades
Jake Peter Deleon
Guerrero Jr.
Jonathan Zhang
Kendra Elise Camacho
Kirk Ivan De Perio
Logan Propst
Neia Dolana Noreyemal
Tagabuel
Okamura Jaxon
Itisoorschigh Tagabuel
Scarlett Shae Salas
Seungwoo Lee
Viane Johanna Magboo
Vinae Jaydene Pua
Vince Angelo Estella
Zayne Reyes

3rd Grade
Adelle Jane Kautz
Aiyah Elise Igitol
Amber Faith Militante
Ava Carmina Sablan
Avah Mae Delacruz
Chloe Anne Marie
Matsunaga
Chloe Cepeda
Daniel Kang
Ezaela Patrice Camacho
Hyunseo Yun
Jeongwoo Choi
Ji Woo Lee
Karl Angelo Diaz
Kathleen Cano
Kennani Vinae Vil-lagomez
Khylee Ysabelle Santos
Ki Eun Lee
Lydia Xian
Mechaet Masaki
Rechucher
Miana Dolores Delacruz
Paige Kanee Cabrera
Von Derick Lauron

4th Grade
Daniel Camacho
James Matsumoto
Jamie Nicole Pereira
Jaze Enzo San Nicolas
Joey Claude Mostales
Kainoa Tenorio
Maria Guerrero
Mia Guerrero
Miguel Garret Mendoza
Nea Zoe Dandan
O-Ren Fumiyo
Sasamoto
Trisha Juliana Abuan
Zian Michael Obnimaga

5th Grade
Aya Santos
Cassidee Jolina Flores
Cecilia R. Villagomez
Ciana Lei Demapan
Cyril Michael Pangilinan
Do Geon Kim
Isabella Soledad
Demapan
Jadine Nicole Pan-gelinan
Janessa Francine Arriola
Jener Franz Pineda
Jessi Chen
Katherine Hwang
Layla Carmen Ann
Palacios
Remiegem Melchor
Siwoo Lee

6th Grade
Akoni Jesus Matsumoto
Chan Woong Yeom

Christine Rosanne
Castro
Christopher James
Dela Cruz
Hope McQuay
Jeffrey Concepcion
Jose Clarence
Tenorio
Justin Mallari
Kaden Christian
Propst
Naomi Skye Matsumoto
Sage R. Villagomez
Stephanie Joyce Sevilla
Taher Shakir

7th Grade
Ainsley Ancheta
Andrick Poon
Arwen Hannah Bartolata
Asa Backe
Ayanna Faith Matsumoto
Camron Xavier Pan-gelinan
Chae Eun Kim
Emmanuel Pontiveros
Gavril Myles Santiago
Heleyna Frielle Dela Santa
Jessiana Tenorio
Kate Nicole Cabalbag
Kayli Ari Salas
Leonard Jake Regalado
Mikayla Castro
Mya Pangelinan
Oscar Bien Buenafflor
Patricia Denielle Lugtu
Raina Park
Sophia Tenorio
Valerie Anne Estella
Victor Nash Santos
William Matthew Cano

8th Grade
Ari James Toskas
Arturo Rodrigo Travilla
Irene Kim
Irie Kane Camacho
Jaeyun Jung
Jamie Lee
Jay Francis Dominic
Pineda
Kaeli Pathil
Malina Rose Tenorio
Nicole Erin Mariano
Tricia Antonnette
Palacios

9th Grade
Arman Kaito Rechucher
Brandon Lee
Camille Alannah Sablan
Devin Jordan Propst
Gwen Tiffany Gamab
Ruben Guerrero
Tyana Kisha Tesiro
Xin Wen Jin

10th Grade
Brent Matthew Ortizo
Donnie James Jr.
Militante
Gerald Jr. Deleon
Guerrero
Jill Anne Marie Mallari
Keehara Nielsen
Baldazo
Kina Dela Cruz
Kyla Monique Cabrera
Leopoldo Naraja
Leunoyce Regalado
Raven-Mae Driver
Yurihana Rosa
Sasamoto

11th Grade
Aleia Santos
Christian Guerrero
Fiona Marielle Bucalig
Hannah Lacap
Jeffrey Sheu
Jeremiah Jerome Diaz
Jihwan Ryu
Joshua Donovan Tenorio
JunBeom Kim
Kiana Lei Propst
Larry Dean Cruz
Monique Laura Duenas
Richard Jesus Vil-lagomez
Robin Kyle Alvarez
Saij Pandey
Theresa Rose Schweiger
Vaughn Andrei Mallari
Victoria Ancheta

12th Grade
Brandee Hunter
Brian Youn
Carmille Perez
Christian Dean Palattao
Connie Zhu
Hwan Hee (Shaina) Lee
Jieyu Lin
John Isaac San Nicolas
Katherine Avendano-Woodruff
Kevin Kang
Mikee Mame Mendoza
Puti'on Palacios-

Camacho
Raymalyng Guanlao
Seungwoo (Raffy) Lee
Skyler Poon
Trinity Cruz
Victoria Nicole Santos
Vince Philip Salvador
Xavier Gatmaitan

HONOR ROLL

Students must have a GPA of 3.66 or above and must not have any behavior grade of U or NI.

1st Grade
Aiden Ray Cepeda
Aiesha Sadie Camacho
Aleaya Bermudes
Candize Paige Delos Reyes
Chloe Nicole Arnold
Cristin Pangelinan
Gabriella Jo Tenorio
Gino Marvin Deleon
Guerrero
Jace Pangelinan
Naomi Elizabeth
Benjamin
Youngwoo Choi
Zane Fujihira

2nd Grade
Chloe Jane Militante
John Damien Sablan
Joseph Francisco White
Madden Anthony Dele-onGuerrero
Oliveeah Julee Kaipat
Qoheleth Thomas Blas
Sera Guerrero
Soli Maratita
Tone Yoshise
Yu Ma
Zion James Ulloa

3rd Grade
Cali Jade Cabrera
Dana Hwang
Francisco Joseph Cruz
Franko Ray Tudela
Heaven Agnes Deleon
Guerrero
Jayda Milan Torres
Jeremy Terlaje
Krish Devjani
Mikayla Guerrero
Reef Cole Reyes
Talina Aguon-Mcclure
Victoria Eve Terlaje
Ye Lei (Bruce) Song

4th Grade
Bella Deleon Guerrero
Bentley James Albuén
Caleb John Aldan
Caydince Raine Masga
David Joseph Camacho
Donald Laurence
Amwolschigh Tagabuel
Fatima Joy Dimaun
Leighton Tomokane-Tenorio
Leonmar Jaedon
Regalado
Liana Margaret Deleon
Guerrero
Logan Matsumoto
Payton Thomas
Pangelinan
Ryusei Asai

5th Grade
Arstin Itibwulschigh
Tagabuel
Aubrey Rae Quitugua
Francisco Maratita
Gabriella Aundrea Inos
Jayson Jared Tagabuel
Kayla Larson
Kimason Cabrera
Kingston Isaiah Deleon
Guerrero
Krisha Devjani
Tanner Larel Mcclure

6th Grade
Aiden Manuel Wesley
Chan Seo Yeom
Destynnee Aguon
Frank Anthony Reyes
Frantaysha Robert
Iris Maleia Rasa
Juliana Magan Subang
Matthew Guerrero
Maya Jae Jung
Maya McQuay
Nicole Angela Pangilinan
Patricia Matsumoto
Patrick Guerrero
Sarah Angela Melchor
Seungwoo Choi

7th Grade
Alexandria Dysangco
Annieskha Arreza
Anthony Christian Rivera
Julie Anne Chavez
Lance Jericho Javier
Meagan Camacho
Nyla Deleon Guerrero
Quince Emanuele Tizon
Seunghye Jeon

Therese Joy Ogo

8th Grade
Andrei Kaithlyn Chavez
Aryana Carmen
Taimanao
Audrein Jennifer Mallari
Chelsy Anne Reyes
Dylan Santos
Hitomi Rosa Sasamoto
Jada Chang
Jee Woo Son
Laizza Vianca Mallari

Lyssa Rae Steele
Princes Amanda Habal
Rafael Mykel Gozon
Vayden Matagolai

9th Grade
Angel Li
Ashley Jo Sablan
Avah Marie Torres
Earle Gabreil San
Nicolas
Jazmin Jay Tagabuel
Jeery Chen

Jonathan Sheu
Juliana Vergara
Kevin Zheng
Kriselle Bryana Mitzy
Drilon
L'Wina Atalig
Leo Bang
Leyonne Alfred Tolentino
Maria Torres
Natalie Gabrielle Ano
Palikkun George
Paul Angelo Santos
Paul William Camacho II

Sarawut Sukanpong
Tiana Torres

10th Grade
Aubriana Maria Sablan
Brissa Hunter
Da Hyun Shim
Derek Moritaro
Sasamoto
Dohyun Lim
Erin Frink
Francine Monique Albuén
Jazmyn Phoeme Lopez

Kayannie Ilifighar Peter
Kristan Rose Torres
Manuel Jacinto Pan-gelinan
Mathew Adrian Sablan
Moeisha Eleanor Cruz
Raeka Shereen Lantin

11th Grade
Christopher Adam
Mafnas
Cory Lee
Hyunjun Kim

Hyunkyu Park
Kwonjoon Ha
Lyndon Digno
Raesyl Gerard Solis
William Nathaniel Ano
Yu Jeong Son

12th Grade
Kyle Attao
Lina Lee
Penelope Sablan
Reuben Christian
Tomboc

SULC, teen Leo club clean up Tanapag Beach

The Saipan Unity Lions Club and Saipan Teen Unity Leo's Club collaborated on the morning of Halloween, Oct. 31, 2020, for a beach cleanup at the club's adopted site, the Tanapag Beach.

The activity drew the participation of 22 SULC Lion members and four STULC Leo members, who all managed to fill a total of nine trash bags.

After the beach cleanup, the SULC and STULC members headed to the Santa Remedios Church, which is also located in Tanapag, to distribute 50 bags of school supplies to the church's CCD students. Each school bag contained notebooks, pencils, crayons, rulers, and even candy, making this their Spooky Halloween Treats given by the Saipan Unity Lions Club.

Both activities were led by SULC president Alicia Barbo, Lion's Club first vice district governor Atoy Banting, and Leo president Vicky Ancheta. *(PR)*

Members of the Saipan Unity Lions Club and Saipan Teen Unity Leo's Club donate 50 bags of school supplies at the Santa Remedios Church in Tanapag last Oct. 31, 2020.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Members of the Saipan Unity Lions Club and Saipan Teen Unity Leo's Club managed to fill a total of nine trash bags during their cleanup at the Tanapag Beach last Oct. 31, 2020.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055, SAIPAN MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500/1 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cnmports.com

DESIGN/BUILD FOR THE SEAPORT MARINA IMPROVEMENTS
TINIAN HARBOR
CPA PROJECT NO. CPA-TS-001-20
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting for sealed proposals for the design and construction of improvements to the seaport marina at the Tinian Harbor. The work shall include all design, materials, labor, equipment and construction services necessary to achieve a finished product, including but not limited to the items in the scope of work and those shown on the layout provided in the proposal package.

The Scope of Work (SOW) outlining the project's general requirements may be picked up at the CPA Administration Office at no cost. Project approach and costs must be within the parameters of the established SOW. Any deviation from the SOW, a proposal based on reduced SOW or a proposal that exceeded what is required by the SOW, may be grounds for immediate disqualification of the offeror's proposal package.

A pre-proposal conference will be held on **Friday, November 20, 2020 at 10:00 am** at the CPA Tinian Seaport Office at the Tinian Harbor to discuss the project scope of work in detail. A site inspection will immediately follow the pre-proposal conference. Attendance at this conference is not mandatory.

Questions shall be submitted in writing to Ms. Wendi Prater, CPA Executive Assistant/Project Manager via hand delivery to the CPA Administration Office, 2nd floor of the arrival terminal at the Saipan International Airport, or via email to wprater@cnmports.com or cpa.engr@pticom.com by no later than 5:00 p.m., Friday, November 27, 2020. All responses to questions or requests for information will be provided to all proposers who have picked up a proposal package.

Proposers are requested to submit one original and four (4) copies of the proposals, sealed in an envelope and marked on the cover package outside as follows: *"Design/Build for Seaport Marina Improvement, Tinian Harbor, Tinian, CPA-TS-001-20"*. Proposals must be submitted no later than **5:00 P.M. LOCAL TIME, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2020**, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

Date: October 23, 2020

Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA)
CNMI Government

INVITATION FOR BID
PROJECT NO. CPA-IFB-001-21
SUBMISSION DATE: NOVEMBER 13, 2020: 2:00 P.M.

“PROVIDE AND INSTALL TWO BRAND NEW COMMERCIAL A/C UNITS AND TWO OUTDOOR CONDENSING UNITS AT THE TINIAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, TINIAN

THE BID PACKAGE IS AVAILABLE FOR PICK UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY, 2ND FLOOR, ARRIVAL BUILDING, SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT BEGINNING OCTOBER 20, 2020.

BIDDERS ARE TO SUBMIT ONE (1) ORIGINAL AND TWO (2) COPIES IN A SEALED ENVELOPE AND MARKED “PROVIDE AND INSTALL TWO BRAND NEW COMMERCIAL A/C UNITS AND TWO OUTDOOR CONDENSING UNITS (IFB-001-21)” TO THE OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, 2ND FLOOR, ARRIVAL BUILDING, SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ON OR BEFORE 2:00 P.M., NOVEMBER 13, 2020. BIDDERS SHALL TAKE INTO CONSIDERATIONS ALL CHARGES ASSOCIATED WITH THIS PROCUREMENT BEFORE FINALIZING ITS BID PRICE.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CPA PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION §40-50-1020 AND 1025 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CPA RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF CPA.

/s/ CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

DATE: _____

Business

AS PAYLESS SUPERFRESH & TRUCKLOAD STORE TURNS 1

Triple J partners with Make-A-Wish this holiday season

As Triple J's Payless SuperFresh & Truckload Store celebrates its first year anniversary this Sunday, Nov. 8, the home goods and grocery store will be partnering with the Make-A-Wish Foundation Guam/CNMI Chapter to continue to make dreams come true, especially this holiday season.

From now until Dec. 24, customers can purchase a Wish Star at \$3 at the Payless SuperFresh & Truckload Store and other business under the Triple J Group of companies—Triple J Motors, Bubba Gump Shrimp Co., and Great Harvest Bread Co.

Wish Star buyers can officially sign the Wish Star under the statement, "I help make wishes come true!" Now more than ever, Make-A-Wish Foundation Guam/CNMI Chapter remains committed to delivering hope to wish kids and their families despite unprecedented changes 2020 has brought forth. All proceeds collected will be donated to the Make-A-Wish Foundation during the Christmas season.

Aside from the tie up with the nonprofit that helps fulfill the wishes of children with a critical illness, Payless SuperFresh & Truckload Store is also giving back to the community by offering customers multiple opportunities to save on purchases and win prizes this coming weekend.

For instance, the popular Grab



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Payless SuperFresh & Truckload Store is celebrating its first year anniversary this Sunday, Nov. 8, with a tie up with Make-A-Wish Foundation Guam/CNMI Chapter, promotions, and even a raffle with no purchases necessary.

N' Go section will offer \$1 bites, plus additional mark downs, and in-store giveaways. Payless SuperFresh & Truckload Store is also encouraging all customers to enter a raffle for multiple chances to win awesome prizes. The raffle prizes include a two-night stay at the Surfrider Resort Hotel with complimentary breakfast for two, a NexGrill 29" Charcoal Grill and Smoker, a Survival Camping Stand Up Paddle Board, and a 65" Samsung UHD Curved TV. Best of all, there is no purchase necessary

to enter. For more information visit Payless SuperFresh & Truckload Store on Facebook or ask a customer service representative. Stop in the store on Sunday, Nov. 8, 3pm for the announcement of raffle winners.

"This year has undoubtedly been uncommon to the say the least. We've learned a lot through trials and tribulation, but the one common thread we keep coming back to is—*inafa'maolek - yipiy-eew*—meaning we are in this together. Our customers are in

the forefront of our minds in all that we do, and this is why for our anniversary we want to share our gratitude with fun giveaways as well as support a longtime partner—the Make-A-Wish Foundation—in their efforts to give love and support those in most need within our community," said Triple J Five Star Wholesale general manager Jay Santos.

Payless SuperFresh & Truckload Store general manager Morgan Carrico is proud of what the store has accomplished in just one year of ex-

istence. "Just a year ago we opened our doors offering customers a wider variety of the freshest produce on island, a first-of-its-kind Butcher Shop featuring Certified Angus Beef and a dedicated dairy and deli selection. I am proud we've accomplished these goals and

more with community partnerships like Karidat Social Services, Inas' Kitchen, Tropical Gardens, and the Make-A-Wish Foundation, to name a few. The island community is so closely knit, and we are grateful to be a contributing partner." (PR)

Joanna Rabago keeps up with customers' needs

By BEA CABRERA
beacabrerasaipan@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

Joanna Rabago, account manager of DOCOMO Pacific Saipan, makes life for their clients convenient while getting maximum benefits and support for existing accounts and prospective ones. She is in charge of talking to businesses and that's on top of always of providing excellent customer service.

"I seek various businesses and try to offer them the best solutions for their telecommunication or networking needs. I officially started this position in the early week of October...this is a new role for me at DOCOMO for I have been with the company for five years doing business services in the past," she said.

"My day is never without attending meetings or doing client calls talking to people. Due to COVID-19, work goes on as I have had a lot of meetings done virtually or sometimes through the phone which makes it a bit difficult but we still find a way to make it work. Other than that, it has been the right kind of busy," she added.

Rabago embarked on a journey to join the workforce after graduating from Kagman High School in 2004 and slowly but surely built up a career that she enjoys. "I have been working since I graduated from high school and most of my work experience is in the private sector dealing with customer service. I worked for the Federal Emergency Management Agency at one point in 2004 where we did crisis counseling," she said.

"A lot of my work experience led me to the position that I am in right now which is mainly customer service and assisting clients with their needs...Good customer service is one of our priorities at DOCOMO Pacific as it gives our clients a complete



BEA CABRERA

Joanna Rabago is the new account manager at DOCOMO Pacific Saipan.

and beneficial experience that aligns with our purpose," she added.

In August, DOCOMO Pacific officially launched the first 5G or 5th generation technology in Guam and the CNMI. 5G technology is designed to connect everyone to make calls, receive messages, and surf the world wide web faster and clearer in the palm of their hands.

"Clients are pouring in and with the 5G service, we do have a lot of clients inquiring about it which is available currently in Garapan. 5G speed is awesome and further serves our customers better, we also restructured our rates for business online speed because in a fast-paced world we live in, we have a lot of customers that are interested with our rates and speed," Rabago said.

"Expanding our 5G I believe is in the works... and ultimately our goal is to have our services all around the CNMI. There are many advantages of using 5G work-wise, for school, or for whatever reason because at DOCOMO, we strive to help clients to make many things easier with the use of technology," she added.

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THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Nation

Biden wins Michigan, Wisconsin, now on brink of White House

WASHINGTON (AP)—Joe Biden won the battleground prizes of Michigan and Wisconsin on Wednesday, reclaiming a key part of the “blue wall” that slipped away from Democrats four years ago and dramatically narrowing President Donald Trump’s pathway to reelection.

A full day after Election Day, neither candidate had cleared the 270 Electoral College votes needed to win the White House. But Biden’s victories in the Great Lakes states left him at 264, meaning he was one battleground

state away from crossing the threshold and becoming president-elect.

Biden, who has received more than 71 million votes, the most in history, was joined by his running mate Kamala Harris at an afternoon news conference and said he now expected to win the presidency, though he stopped short of outright declaring victory.

“I will govern as an American president,” Biden said. “There will be no red states and blue states when we win. Just the United States of America.”



Democratic presidential candidate former Vice President Joe Biden speaks Wednesday, Nov. 4, 2020, in Wilmington, Del. AP

Trump spent much of Wednesday in the White House residence, huddling with advisers and fuming at media coverage showing his Democratic rival picking up key battlegrounds. Trump falsely claimed victory in several key states and amplified unsubstantiated conspiracy theories about Democratic gains as absentee and early votes were tabulated.

Trump campaign manager Bill Stepien said the president would formally request a Wisconsin recount, citing “irregularities” in several counties. And the campaign said it was filing suit in Michigan, Pennsylvania and Georgia to halt ballot counting on grounds that it wasn’t given proper access to observe.

At the same time, hundreds of thousands of votes were still to be counted in Pennsylvania, and Trump’s campaign said it was moving to intervene in the existing Supreme Court litigation over counting mail-in ballots there. Yet, the campaign also argued that it was the outstanding votes in Arizona that could reverse the outcome there, showcasing an inherent inconsistency with their arguments.

In other closely watched races, Trump picked up Florida, the largest of the swing states, and held onto Texas and Ohio while Biden kept New Hampshire and Minnesota and flipped Arizona, a state that had reliably voted Republican in recent elections.

If the electoral vote is tied

The U.S. presidential election could be decided by the newly elected Congress if the electoral votes split evenly between two candidates

Electoral College

538
Total

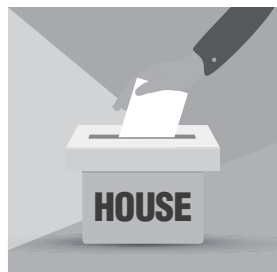
538 electors; each state has electors equal to its two senators and number of representatives

270
268

Candidate needs 270, a majority of votes

If there is a tie

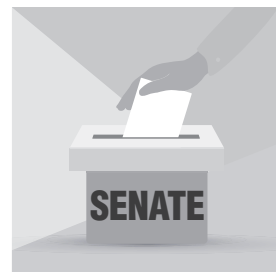
For president:
The House (435 members) decides



■ Each state gets one vote

Candidate with 26 or more votes (majority) becomes president

For vice president:
The Senate (100 members) decides



■ Each state gets one vote

Candidate with 26 or more votes (majority) becomes president

Source: TNS

It was a stark contrast to Trump, who on Wednesday falsely proclaimed that he had won the election, even though millions of votes remained uncounted and the race was far from over.

The Associated Press called Wisconsin for Biden after election officials in the state said all outstanding ballots had been counted, save for a few hundred in one township and an expected small number of provisional votes.

Trump’s campaign requested a recount, thought statewide recounts in Wisconsin have historically changed the vote tally by only a few hundred votes. Biden led by 0.624 percentage point out of nearly

3.3 million ballots counted.

For four years, Democrats had been haunted by the crumbling of the blue wall, the trio of Great Lakes states—Pennsylvania is the third—that their candidates had been able to count on every four years. But Trump’s populist appeal struck a chord with white working class voters and he captured all three in 2016 by a total of just 77,000 votes.

Both candidates this year fiercely fought for the states, with Biden’s everyman political persona resonating in blue collar towns while his campaign also pushed to increase turnout among Black voters in cities like Detroit and Milwaukee.

Pennsylvania remained too early to call Wednesday night.

It was unclear when or how quickly a national winner could be determined after a long, bitter campaign dominated by the coronavirus and its effects on Americans and the national economy. But Biden’s possible pathways to the White House were expanding rapidly.

After the victories in Wisconsin and Michigan, he held 264 Electoral College votes, just six away from the presidency. A win in any state except for Alaska—but including Nevada with its six votes—would be enough to end Trump’s tenure in the White House.

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF PUBLIC WORKS
 2ND FLOOR OLEAI JOETEN COMMERCIAL CENTER SAIPAN MP 96950

ADDENDUM NO. 3
 October 26, 2020
DPW20-IFB-022

CM-NH-0036(004)

Route 36 (Windward/Chalan Kalabera) Road Improvements, Phase 1

- General: The following revisions, additions, corrections, and/or clarifications to the specification and drawings shall apply to the work hereby. Careful note of this Addendum shall be taken by the bidder/contractor, and all trades affected shall be fully advised of the information contained herein. In the event of the conflict between the drawings, specification and this Addendum, the contents of this addendum shall govern. All further conflicts in the work resulting from, or caused by, the contents of this Addendum must be brought to the attention of the Contracting Officer for resolution. Failure to acknowledge this bid Addendum with instructions may subject your bid to rejection on the affected item(s)/service(s).
- Submission of Bid Documents:
 Bid submission scheduled at 10:00 a.m. local time on November 18, 2020 will be postponed until further notice. Another addendum will be issued for the new date of bid submission.

All other requirements of the Invitation for Bids of the project package shall remain as stated.

/S/ PETER P. CAMACHO
 ACTING SECRETARY OF PUBLIC WORKS

/S/ FRANCISCO C. AGUON
 ACTING DIRECTOR OF
 PROCUREMENT SERVICES

END OF ADDENDUM NO. 3

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: DPW21-ITB-003

SUBMISSION DATE: December 2, 2020 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

“Route 35 (Chalan Tun Herman Pan) Improvements Project No. TQ-THS-0035 (301), Saipan”

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, LOCATED ON SECOND FLOOR, OLEAI JOETEN COMMERCIAL CENTER, SAN JOSE, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

The project package will be available on or after **October 30, 2020** at Technical Services Division, Department of Public Works, located on Second Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, San Jose, Saipan.

There will be a **Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **November 17, 2020**, 9:00 a.m. local time at the Department of Public Works Conference Room 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center Office, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All question regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **November 24, 2020** to **Ms. Lorraine Seman, Acting Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ PETER P. CAMACHO
 ACTING SECRETARY, DPW

/S/ FRANCISCO C. AGUON
 ACTING DIRECTOR, PROCUREMENT SERVICES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: DPW21-ITB-004

SUBMISSION DATE: December 29, 2020 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

“Route 36 (Windward/Chalan Kalabera) Road Improvements, Phase II, Saipan”

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, LOCATED ON SECOND FLOOR, OLEAI JOETEN COMMERCIAL CENTER, SAN JOSE, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

There will be a **Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **November 24, 2020**, 9:00 a.m. local time at the Department of Public Works Conference Room 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center Office, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All question regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **December 16, 2020** to **Ms. Lorraine M. Seman, Acting Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ JAMES A. ADA
 SECRETARY, DPW

/S/ FRANCISCO C. AGUON
 ACTING DIRECTOR,
 DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT SERVICE

Trump sues in 3 states, laying ground for contesting outcome

WASHINGTON (AP)—As Democrat Joe Biden inched closer to the 270 Electoral College votes needed to win the White House, President Donald Trump's campaign put into action the legal strategy the president had signaled for weeks: attacking the integrity of the voting process in states where the result could mean his defeat.

Democrats scoffed at the legal challenges the president's campaign filed Wednesday in Pennsylvania, Michigan and Georgia. In spite of the aggressive move, the flurry of court action did not seem obviously destined to impact the election's outcome.

The new filings, joining existing Republican legal challenges in Pennsylvania and Nevada, demand better access for campaign observers to locations where ballots are being processed and counted, and raised absentee ballot concerns, the campaign said.

The Associated Press called Michigan for Democrat Joe Biden on Wednesday. The AP has not called Nevada, Pennsylvania or Georgia.

The Trump campaign also is seeking to intervene in a Pennsylvania case at the Supreme Court that deals with whether ballots received up to three days after the election can be counted, deputy campaign manager Justin Clark said.

Trump's campaign also announced that it would ask for a recount in Wisconsin, a state the AP called for Biden on Wednesday afternoon. Campaign manager Bill Stepien



A family visits the Supreme Court in Washington, Wednesday, Nov. 4, 2020. The Trump campaign is seeking to intervene in a Pennsylvania case at the Supreme Court that deals with whether ballots received up to three days after the election can be counted.

cited "irregularities in several Wisconsin counties," without providing specifics.

Biden said Wednesday the count should continue in all states, adding, "No one's going to take our democracy away from us—not now, not ever."

Campaign spokesman Andrew Bates said legal challenges were not the behavior of a winning campaign.

"What makes these charades especially pathetic is that while Trump is demanding recounts in places he has

already lost, he's simultaneously engaged in fruitless attempts to halt the counting of votes in other states in which he's on the road to defeat," Bates said in a statement.

Vote counting, meanwhile, stretched into Thursday. Every election, results reported on election night are unofficial and ballot counting extends past Election Day. But this year, unlike in previous years, states were contending with an avalanche of mail ballots driven by fears of voting in person during a pandemic.

Mail ballots normally take more time to verify and count. This year, because of the large numbers of mail ballots and a close race, results were expected to take longer.

The lawsuits the Trump campaign filed in Michigan and Pennsylvania on Wednesday called for a temporary halt in the counting until it is given "meaningful" access in numerous locations and allowed to review ballots that already have been opened and processed.

The AP's Michigan call for Biden came after the suit was

filed. The president is ahead in Pennsylvania, but his margin is shrinking as more mailed ballots are counted. The state had 3.1 million mail-in ballots that take time to count and an order allows them to be received and counted up until Friday if they are postmarked by Nov. 3.

Pennsylvania Attorney General Josh Shapiro, a Democrat, said in a CNN interview the Trump campaign's lawsuit was "more a political document than a legal document."

"There is transparency in

this process. The counting has been going on. There are observers observing this counting, and the counting will continue," he said.

The Michigan lawsuit claims Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson, a Democrat, was allowing absentee ballots to be counted without teams of bipartisan observers as well as challengers. Michigan Democrats said the suit was a long-shot. Poll watchers from both sides were plentiful Wednesday at one major polling place in question — the TCF Center in Detroit, the AP observed.

The Georgia lawsuit filed in Chatham County essentially asks a judge to ensure the state laws are being followed on absentee ballots. Campaign officials said they were considering peppering a dozen other counties around the state with similar claims around absentee ballots.

Trump, addressing supporters at the White House early Wednesday, talked about taking the undecided race to the Supreme Court. Though it was unclear what he meant, his comments evoked a reprise of the court's intervention in the 2000 presidential election that ended with a decision effectively handing the presidency to George W. Bush.

But there are important differences from 2000 and they already were on display. In 2000, Republican-controlled Florida was the critical state and Bush clung to a small lead. Democrat Al Gore asked for a recount and the Supreme Court stopped it.

Election splits Congress, GOP bolstered as Democrats falter

WASHINGTON (AP)—The election scrambled seats in the House and Senate but ultimately left Congress much like it began, deeply split as voters resisted big changes despite the heated race at the top of the ticket for the White House.

It's an outcome that dampens Democratic demands for a bold new agenda, emboldens Republicans and almost ensures partisan gridlock regardless of who wins the presidency. Or perhaps, as some say, it provides a rare opening for modest across-the-aisle cooperation.

Speaker Nancy Pelosi was on track to keep control of the Democratic House, but saw her majority shrinking and her leadership called into question. Republicans' control of the Senate tilted their way as GOP senators fended off an onslaught of energized challengers, though a few races remained undecided Wednesday.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell said

Wednesday he's confident "no matter who ends up running the government" they'll be "trying to overcome all that and get results."

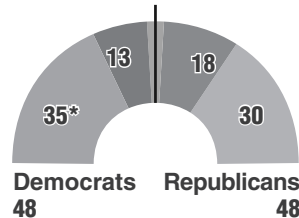
One certainty is the upended projections will force a rethinking of polling, fundraising and the very messages the parties use to reach voters in the Trump era and beyond.

By evening, Pelosi had all but declared Democrat Joe Biden the winner, saying House Democrats "will now have the opportunity to deliver extraordinary progress" on party priorities—lowering health care costs, providing jobs through new infrastructure and others.

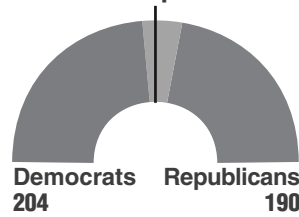
But the dismal outcome for congressional Democrats put in question the ambitious plans for legislative overhauls pushed by the party, eager for a sweep of Washington government.

Even if Democrats capture the White House and a narrowly split Senate, Pelosi's leverage to force deal-making on her terms will be dimin-

U.S. Senate



U.S. House of Representatives



Note: As of 9:30 p.m. Eastern, Nov. 4
Source: AP
Graphic: Tribune News Service

ished by her House losses.

If Donald Trump wins another term, his Republican allies particularly in the Senate will likely feel more comfortable sticking with him after escaping an electoral wipeout, though they have yet to outline a GOP agenda.

Scott Jennings, a Republican strategist close to McConnell, said win or lose Trump

"reorganized the political parties," turning Republicans, not Democrats, into the party of "working-class" America.

"Democrats have a lot to think about when it comes to those voters," Jennings said. "And Republicans have a lot to think about enacting policies germane to those voters."

Democrats countered that with Biden on the brink of victory, the mandate for solutions to the coronavirus crisis, faltering economy and other big issues was as strong as ever.

"We're going to get back to the business of governing," said Zac Petkanas, a Democratic strategist. "Republicans are going to have a choice—whether they're going to be helpful or stand in way."

Most immediately, a COVID relief bill remains within reach, as the pandemic blazes through the states. McConnell said he would also like to negotiate a big spending bill to keep the government running past a mid-December deadline.

House Republicans picked

up five seats, so far, deflating Pelosi's plans to reach deep into Trump country by making rare gains with women and minority candidates.

Republicans defeated several Democratic freshmen who delivered the House majority in 2018 in a backlash against Trump, by linking them to their most liberal members, including Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, and inaccurately branding them all as "socialist."

"We expanded this party that reflects America, that looks like America," said House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif., in a conference call with reporters.

A handful of new progressives will be coming to Washington to join House Democrats, while Republicans will see new right-flank members, including Marjorie Taylor Greene, who has espoused unfounded QAnon conspiracy theories and won a vacant seat in northwest Georgia. Trump has called Greene a "future Republican star."

While Democrats picked up must-win seats in Colorado

and Arizona, they suffered a setback in Alabama, and Republicans held their own in one race after another—in South Carolina, Maine, Iowa, Texas, Kansas and Montana, dramatically limiting Democrats' hopes of making inroads.

"I know folks are anxious," Democratic Sen. Chris Murphy told followers on a live Twitter video. "We need to count the votes."

The races attracted an unprecedented outpouring of small-dollar donations for Democrats from Americans apparently voting with their pocketbooks to propel long-shot campaigns.

"You wasted a lot of money," said White House ally Sen. Lindsey Graham in Columbia, South Carolina, after defeating Jamie Harrison, despite the Democrat's stunning \$100 million haul for his up-start campaign.

Still, Republican strategist Steven Law, president of the Senate Leadership Fund, which supports GOP senators, said future candidates are going to have to step up their own fundraising.

Asia

S. Korea OKs single test for COVID-19 and flu

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—Health officials in South Korea have approved a new test that's designed to detect both COVID-19 and seasonal influenza from the same samples, which would help prevent disruption at hospitals as the pandemic stretches into the flu season.

The country has struggled to stem the coronavirus, which some experts say could spread more broadly during cold weather when people spend more time indoors.

The Korea Disease Control and Prevention Agency on Wednesday reported 118 new cases of COVID-19, most of them in the densely populated Seoul metropolitan area. The national caseload is now at 26,925, including 474 deaths.

People have been increasingly venturing out in public after the government eased social distancing restrictions last month to support the weak economy.

"Despite efforts by health



AP
A Kashmiri girl reacts as a health worker takes a nasal swab sample to test for COVID-19 in Srinagar, Indian controlled Kashmir, Wednesday, Nov. 4, 2020.

ment has borrowed and spent billions of dollars on wage subsidies as it tries to mitigate job losses. Finance Minister Grant Robertson said the better-than-expected figures show its recovery and rebuild plan is working. The figures show women's employment has been disproportionately affected. New Zealand has been largely successful in its efforts to eliminate the virus from its shores.

■ More than 200 Sri Lankan policemen have been infected with the coronavirus and another 2,213 have been quarantined as cases surge in the capital and its suburbs, police said Wednesday. Police spokesman Ajith Rohana said 221 police officers have tested positive for the virus. Health authorities have linked the infections to a cluster that emerged from the country's main fish market near Colombo. Sri Lanka experienced a new outbreak of the disease last month when two clusters emerged—one centered on a garment factory and other on the fish market. Confirmed cases from the two clusters have grown to 8,265. Sri Lanka's total number of cases since March have reached 11,744, including 23 fatalities. The government has imposed a curfew in densely populated Western province, where the capital is located. Authorities have also closed schools and key public offices, banned public gatherings and restricted public transport.

China vows 'proper' response to US arms sale to Taiwan

BEIJING (AP)—China vowed Wednesday that it will make a "proper and necessary response" if the U.S. proceeds with its latest planned arms sale to Taiwan.

Foreign ministry spokesperson Wang Wenbin said the sale of \$600 million in armed drones to the island "brutally interferes in China's internal affairs and seriously undermines China's sovereignty and security interests."

The U.S. should cancel all such sales to Taiwan "so as to avoid further damage to China-U.S. relations and peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait," Wang told reporters at a daily briefing.

China, which claims Taiwan as its own territory, will make a "proper and necessary response according to the development of the situation," Wang said.

The State Department said Tuesday it had greenlighted Taiwan's purchase of four "weapons ready" remotely piloted aircraft and related equipment, the latest in a series of arms transfers for the island.

In its announcement, the department said the proposed sale "serves U.S. national, economic, and security interests by supporting the recipient's continuing efforts to modernize its armed forces

and to maintain a credible defensive capability."

Just last week, the administration approved plans for a \$2.37 billion sale of Harpoon missile systems to Taiwan. That came hours after Beijing had announced sanctions on U.S. defense contractors, including Boeing, the lead contractor on the Harpoon deal, over a previous weapons deal.

China's ruling Communist Party threatens to use force to annex Taiwan, which it has regarded as a breakaway province since the sides split amid civil war in 1949. Washington maintains only unofficial ties with Taipei in deference to Beijing but remains the islands most important source of weaponry and is legally bound to ensure its armed forces can mount an adequate defense.

Chinese-U.S. relations have plunged to their lowest level in decades amid disputes about security, technology, the coronavirus pandemic and human rights. At the same time, China has stepped up military flights into Taiwanese airspace in what it calls a warning to the pro-independence administration of President Tsai Ing-wen, further bolstering bipartisan political support for Taiwan in the U.S.

authorities to trace contacts and suppress transmissions, such efforts have been outpaced by the speed of viral spread," senior Health Ministry official Yoon Taeho said during a virus briefing.

The new test, which targets genes that are specific to both COVID-19 and seasonal flu, is an evolved version of PCR tests that are used to detect COVID-19 from samples taken from noses or throats. Laboratories use machines to amplify genetic materials so that even tiny quantities of the virus can be detected.

The illnesses are hard to tell apart by their symptoms, so having a diagnosis for both

in three to six hours "would be convenient for patients and also reduce the burden of medical workers," Yoon said.

In other developments in the Asia-Pacific region:

■ India's capital reported a record high 6,725 new coronavirus cases in the past 24 hours, hit by its worst wave of coronavirus infections since March. New Delhi has averaged more than 5,200 cases a day this past week, a spike the Health Ministry attributes to the festival season. India overall added 46,253 cases, raising its total past 8.3 million. The ministry on Wednesday also reported another 514 fatalities, raising the overall death toll

to 123,611. The ministry has warned the virus situation in New Delhi could worsen due to people crowding markets for festival shopping, coupled with the onset of winter and high air pollution levels in the capital.

■ New Zealand's unemployment rate rose to 5.3% in the September quarter, a better result than predicted amid the economic downturn caused by the coronavirus, government figures show. The rate was up from 4% in the previous quarter. Back in May when the government's budget was announced, the Treasury was predicting unemployment would rise to almost 10% by now. Since then, the govern-

Pakistani PM angers India with plan to change Kashmir status

ISLAMABAD (AP)—Pakistan's prime minister has rekindled controversy with archrival India this week by pledging to make part of the Pakistani-administered Himalayan region of Kashmir officially part his country.

Imran Khan's pledge to declare the area of Gilgit-Baltistan—which is part of the Pakistani-ruled Kashmir—the fifth province of Pakistan promptly angered neighboring India, which itself last year revoked decades-old semi-autonomous status for the Indian-controlled sector of Kashmir.

At the time, New Delhi divided the Muslim-majority region into two federally governed territories—Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh—touching off anger on both sides

of the frontier. India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government also annulled the region's separate constitution. Indians will now be allowed to buy property in the region.

Khan's promise was likely in retaliation for India's move but he may also have sought to score points ahead of local elections on Nov. 15 in the area.

Kashmir is divided between India and Pakistan, but claimed by each in its entirety. The two nuclear-armed neighbors have fought two wars over Kashmir since their independence from British colonial rule in 1947. The region is frequently the scene of cross-border attacks along the boundary dividing the territory.

Tens of thousands of civilians, rebels and government

forces have been killed in the years-long conflict.

Khan announced a "provisional status of province" during a visit on Sunday to the scenic northern region of Gilgit-Baltistan, which also serves as Pakistan's gateway to China, a close ally. Gilgit-Baltistan is a critical part of the \$60 billion China-Pakistan Economic Corridor that will access Pakistan's southwestern Gwadar port on the Arabian Sea. It also is strategically located between South Asia, Central Asia and the Middle East.

New Delhi responded by saying that Gilgit-Baltistan is "an integral part of India" and that "Pakistan has no legal rights on territories illegally and forcibly occupied by it."

The area's local population,

which numbers about 2 million people, welcomed Khan's promise, which would allow them to have representation in Pakistan's National Assembly and Senate and get development funds from Islamabad.

"We waited for this good news for more than 73 years," said Ashiq Raki, a local teacher.

In the Indian-controlled sector of Kashmir, rebels have been fighting against Indian rule since 1989. Most Muslim Kashmiris support the rebel goal that the territory be united either under Pakistani rule or as an independent country.

India says Kashmir militancy is Pakistan-sponsored terrorism. Pakistan denies the charge, and most Kashmiris call it a legitimate freedom struggle.

World

Retail therapy, last pints: England readies for new lockdown

LONDON (AP)—Last-minute shoppers in England came out in force Wednesday and thirsty drinkers enjoyed their final freshly poured pints in a pub for the next month before Britain joins swaths of Europe in a coronavirus lockdown designed to save its health care system from being overwhelmed.

All non-essential venues—which in England includes pubs, restaurants, hairdressers, golf courses, gyms, swimming pools, entertainment places and stores selling items like books, clothing and sneakers—must close Thursday until at least Dec. 2. That order came after a sudden change of course last weekend by Britain's government, which had for weeks been advocating a targeted regional response to the pandemic instead of another national lockdown.

Unlike the U.K.'s spring lockdown, schools and universities in England are remaining open this time, as are construction sites and factories.

In London's Soho nightlife district, large crowds packed bars and pubs as many took the opportunity to have a drink with friends for the last time before restrictions begin.

"For me it was making the most of the last night I can go back to my community and have a night out," said Phoebe Koor, 27. "I've got so many friends that work in hospital-



Shoppers in Leeds City Centre, England, Wednesday Nov. 4, 2020, as Britain prepared to join large swaths of Europe in a coronavirus lockdown designed to save its health care system from being overwhelmed.

ity and my heart is absolutely breaking for them that they're not going to have a job."

With time running out to get things sorted before the lockdown takes effect, many shops and hair salons extended their hours and reported brisk customer traffic on the last day.

London hairdresser Richard Ward said his team of around

100 will have worked through 1,400 customers in the three working days since the British government announced the England-wide lockdown. Still, that boost didn't make up for a 25% weekly loss in income this year as a result of coronavirus restrictions already in place.

"The staff are working back to back, all days off have been

canceled, all holidays have been canceled," Ward said. "When you have high overheads like we have here, it's a numbers game, and you have to take a lot of money in order to pay all these people and pay all the overheads."

Fears about a devastating economic impact of the monthlong shutdown

prompted some lawmakers from Prime Minister Boris Johnson's Conservative Party to vote against approving the lockdown in Parliament on Wednesday. Still, Johnson easily won the vote as most opposition lawmakers backed the move.

"I don't think any government would want to impose

these measures lightly, or any parliament would want to impose these measures lightly on the people of this country," Johnson said.

England's lockdown follows similar restrictions elsewhere in the U.K., which recorded another 492 COVID-19 deaths on Wednesday, the highest daily number since May. Overall, the U.K. has Europe's highest official virus-related death toll: 47,742.

It also follows fresh restrictions across the continent amid evidence that the number of people hospitalized with COVID-19—and subsequently dying—is increasing.

The World Health Organization said European countries recorded a 46% increase in virus deaths compared with the previous week and were responsible for about half the 1.7 million cases reported around the world last week.

In recent days, many European nations—including Belgium, Russia, France, Italy, Poland, Slovenia and the U.K.—have reported their highest daily virus death tolls in months, and sometimes ever. The pandemic has already caused more than 1.2 million confirmed deaths—over 270,000 of them in Europe, according to a tally by Johns Hopkins University. Experts say the true toll, due to missed cases and limited testing, is much higher.

EU: Brexit trade talks still face 'too many difficulties'

BRUSSELS (AP)—With a deadline looming ever more menacingly, the European Union's chief negotiator on the post-Brexit trade deal with Britain Wednesday publicly blamed London for a lack of progress in the two sides' belated attempt to reach an even rudimentary agreement.

"At this stage, there are still too many difficulties remaining on important topics," Michel Barnier said on his way to brief the envoys of the 27 member states.

In a Twitter comment later, Barnier said that "Despite EU efforts to find solutions, very serious divergences remain."

Britain's chief negotiator David Frost said he agreed that "wide divergences remain on some key issues."

"We continue to work to find solutions that fully respect U.K. sovereignty," Frost tweeted.

Barnier's comments threw a dampener on optimistic reports that progress was being made at a rapid pace on issues such as fisheries rights, one of three remaining major topics

that need a compromise solution if a deal is to be found before Jan. 1, when a transition period in the Brexit divorce proceedings ends.

Barnier's stern words were in complete contradiction to the olive branch he offered London only two weeks ago after British Prime Minister Boris Johnson insisted that the EU and Barnier fundamentally had to change tack to continue the negotiations.

Both sides have been intensely negotiating since, but, as Barnier pointed out, to little effect.

The lack of progress on fisheries and on the need to have common regulatory standards and fair competition to make sure Britain won't undercut EU businesses has befuddled the negotiating teams for months, as both sides have been trying to strike a trade deal since the U.K. left the EU on Jan. 31.

They must do so within weeks if an agreement is to be ratified by the end of the year, when a post-Brexit transition period ends. A key hurdle is

the EU's parliament, and apparently Barnier was just as scathing in his assessment of the British efforts in front of key legislators.

"The list of fundamental divergences remains long," said German MEP David McAllister, the legislature's top Brexit official. And it has to get past the parliament to be approved.

Without a deal, trade between both sides would fundamentally change, and hundreds of thousands of jobs would be threatened on both sides, especially in nations close to Britain such as Ireland, France, Belgium and the Netherlands. Barnier insisted again Wednesday that the EU "is prepared for all scenarios."

In the trade negotiations, Britain wants to retain as many of the advantages of EU membership as possible without having to live by the bloc's rules. The EU is insisting on stringent trade regulations to avoid having a giant buccaneering trade partner on its doorstep that could freely undercut the bloc's state aid, social and environmental standards.

Libya's rivals urge UN Security Council to back cease-fire

CAIRO (AP)—Libya's rivals wrapped up their military talks with a call to the U.N. Security Council to adopt a binding resolution to implement a cease-fire deal inked last month, the U.N. said.

The two-day talks in the oasis town of Ghadames, which concluded late Tuesday, were the first face-to-face negotiations inside Libya since last year's months-long attack on the capital by forces loyal to the east-based military commander Khalifa Hifter.

The two sides agreed to meet again in the contested coastal city of Sirte later in November, and to form a sub-committee to oversee the return of all Libyan forces to their camps, as mentioned in the Oct. 23 cease-fire deal reached in Geneva, the U.N. support mission in Libya said late Tuesday.

"This is the beginning of a process that is going to require determination, courage, confidence and a lot of work," said the head of the mission, Stephanie Williams, who

headed the Ghadames talks.

She said they have discussed in detail a monitoring mechanism to implement the cease-fire agreement, which includes the departure of foreign forces and mercenaries from the oil-rich country within three months.

The agreement also called for "military deals on training inside Libya" to be frozen and for foreign trainees to leave the country. It did not name a particular country but apparently referred to Turkey, which has sent forces and mercenaries to train and fight alongside forces loyal to the U.N.-supported government in the west.

Libya was plunged into chaos after the 2011 NATO-backed uprising that toppled and killed longtime dictator Moammar Gadhafi. The oil-rich country is now split between a U.N.-supported government in the capital, Tripoli, and rival authorities based in the east. The two sides are backed by an array of local militias as well as regional

and foreign powers.

Fathi Bashaga, the interior minister in the Tripoli government, arrived in Cairo on Wednesday. It was the first visit by a senior official from western Libya to the Egyptian capital since before the Tripoli offensive. Neighboring Egypt, to the east of Libya, is closely allied with Hifter and Libya's east-based administration.

The surprise visit to Egypt is part of efforts by the two countries to "fight the threat of terrorism and organized crime," the Libyan ministry said in a statement.

Bashaga has recently emerged as a powerful figure in the Tripoli government, meeting with Western diplomats and presenting himself as a dealmaker who could guide Libya out its decade-long turmoil.

The two sides urged the U.N. Security Council to urgently adopt a resolution on the implementation of the cease-fire deal, which the U.N. mission has billed as historic.

Off The Wall

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Authorities: 37 pounds of meth found in driver's spare tire
FOREST, Miss. (AP)—Law enforcement officers who pulled a driver over for a traffic violation in Mississippi allegedly discovered about 37 pounds of methamphetamine hidden inside a spare tire stashed in the vehicle. The Scott County Sheriff's Office and the Flowood Police Department stopped a pickup truck along an interstate near Flowood early this month after spotting it driving in a "careless manner," according to the agencies. An officer conducting the stop discovered a tire in the bed of the truck, and inside it, an assisting deputy found 37.5 pounds (17 kilograms) of methamphetamine worth an estimated street value of \$350,000, WLBT-TV reported, citing the authorities. The driver was charged with aggravated trafficking in methamphetamine, Scott County Sheriff Mike Lee said. The suspect was not immediately identified and it was unclear whether they

were being held in custody.

Rare white sea turtle found on South Carolina beach
KIAWAH ISLAND, S.C. (AP)—Volunteers checking sea turtle nests on a South Carolina beach came upon a rare sight: a white sea turtle hatchling crawling across the sand. The town of Kiawah Island posted on its Facebook page that the Kiawah Island Turtle Patrol found a lone white baby sea turtle on Sunday. Photos show a tiny turtle that's a creamy white color rather than the more typical gray or green of a sea turtle. The town says the hatchling is believed to have a genetic condition called leucism, which causes animals to have reduced pigmentation. The condition is described as extremely rare, but it's unclear exactly how often such turtles are found in the wild. The Olive Ridley Project, a sea turtle conservation group, says sea turtles with leucism typically have a hard time surviving because of a lack of camouflage.

Pregnant Florida woman pushes labor aside to cast vote

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP)—A pregnant Florida woman didn't let labor stop her from casting her vote in the presidential election, refusing to go to the hospital until she filled out her ballot.

Officials with the Orange County Supervisor of Elections said the woman was already in labor when she arrived at the polling site with her husband Tuesday afternoon, news outlets reported.

Elections employee Karen Briceño González said the husband asked for a ballot for his wife and later told the staff that she was in the car, in labor and refusing to go to the hospital until she was able to vote.

Briceño González said she rushed outside to give the wom-

an her ballot and check her ID. The staffer thought the woman would fill it out later, but while doing some controlled Lamaze breathing, the woman filled the ballot out right away. Elections clerk Eileen Deliz said the couple never mentioned why the woman waited until she was in labor to cast her vote.

"Maybe she wanted to come in-person at one point and that's why she was waiting, who knows. But she wouldn't go to the hospital until she voted," Deliz said.

Deliz said the unexpected incident delivered a bunch of smiles to the election workers.

"We are very, very busy, but when something like that happens it just makes our day," Deliz said. "Every election cycle brings us a great little story."

Wisconsin trooper stops driver hauling snowmobile atop car

CLAYTON, Wis. (AP)—The Wisconsin State Patrol had a little advice for a guy who transported a snowmobile by strapping it to the roof of his Toyota Corolla: Bad idea.

A trooper pulled over the driver on Highway 63 in northwestern Wisconsin on Sunday afternoon after seeing the snowmobile perched sideways on top of the sedan.

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation tweeted a photo of the car with the Polaris topper on Monday with a message: "Folks, don't try this at home."

The 23-year-old driver was issued a warning about the hauling technique and cited for failing to buckle up, according to DOT spokeswoman Christena O'Brien.

The driver, Matthew Schmit, of Clayton, told the trooper he had just bought the snowmo-

bile and was driving it over to a friend's house to show him, the Star Tribune reported.

"I know it looks sketchy, but we had it strapped down and shook it," he said. "Up like in this kind of region, stuff like this gets seen all the time, but more like the back roads."

Cranes lift Dutch runaway train off whale sculpture

SPIJKENISSE, Netherlands (AP)—The front carriage of a Dutch metro train that landed on a sculpture of a whale's tail after plowing through the end of an elevated section of rails was painstakingly lifted clear of the artwork Tuesday and lowered to the ground.

The train was left precarious-

ly balanced on the whale's tail 10 meters (33 feet) above the ground Monday, after plunging off the end of a metro line in Spijkenisse, a town on the southern edge of Rotterdam.

Two large yellow cranes worked in tandem Tuesday, placing chains around the front and rear of the train's foremost carriage to support it. In an operation that started at dawn and lasted into the darkness of evening, workers also cut it loose from another carriage and removed its wheels before the train was lowered slowly to the ground.

About 30 people watching the operation cheered as

the front carriage finally was separated from the rest of the train amid gathering darkness and cheered again when it was deposited on the ground.

The train was empty at the time it crashed onto the sculpture and the driver escaped unhurt, thanks to the whale tail's unlikely catch.

FIRST DEATH ANNIVERSARY

†William Anthony Jones

(Bill)

We, the family of the late William Anthony Jones (Bill), would like to invite all our relatives and friends to join us for the daily masses commemorating our dearly beloved's passing unto eternal life.

Daily mass of intentions will be celebrated starting Saturday, November 07, 2020 through Sunday, November 15, 2020 at 6:00pm except on Sunday mass will be celebrated at 7:00am at San Jose Church.

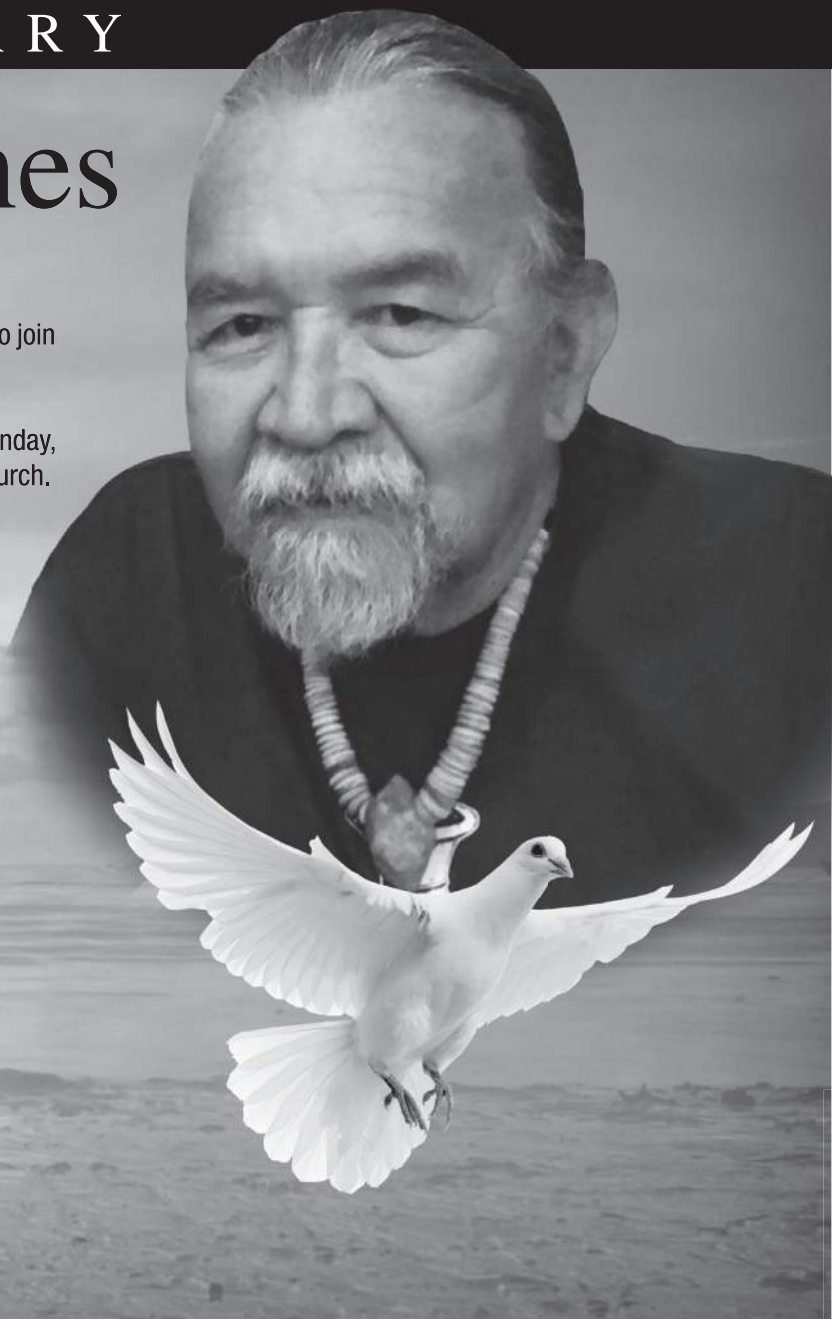
Your presence, thoughts and prayers are greatly appreciated.

The Family

In Memory

A thousand times we needed you.
A thousand times we cried.
If love alone could have saved you,
you never would have died.
A heart of gold stopped beating;
two twinkling eyes closed to rest.
God broke our hearts to prove he only took the best;
never a day goes by that you're not in my heart and my soul.

— Kimberly N. Chastain



Science & Technology

Where are our self-driving cars?

By WILL KAUFMAN
EDMUNDS

Tesla recently made headlines with the beta launch of its Full Self-Driving system. That system comes with a disclaimer saying, "It may do the wrong thing at the worst time, so you must always keep your hands on the wheel and pay extra attention to the road."

Tesla's system has impressive capabilities, but it's definitely not hands-free driving. A few years ago, news stories seemed to say that autonomous vehicles were just a few years away.

Well, it's been a few years and autonomous vehicles are, alas, still in the future. Right now, there is no car on sale that can drive itself without requiring the driver to pay attention to the road and be prepared to take control of the vehicle. In fact, some automakers have slowed down their timelines.

Here are three reasons why you can't buy a self-driving car today and one place you're likely to find them first.

We've yet to define how "safe" is safe

It's difficult to teach a machine to react correctly when faced with new or unpredictable situations we frequently encounter while driving. Heaps of engineering effort has gone into cracking this problem. But how do we determine when a vehicle is safe enough?

In order to be 95% certain that autonomous ve-



In this Jan. 8, 2017, file photo a Chrysler Pacifica hybrid outfitted with Waymo's suite of sensors and radar is displayed at the North American International Auto Show in Detroit. AP

hicles match the safety of human drivers, the cars would need to log 275 million failure-free autonomous miles, according to a report from the Rand Corp. And to prove that autonomous vehicles are even just 10% or 20% safer than humans, the requirement jumps to billions of miles. Since 2009, autonomous tech company Waymo's vehicles have driven a little more than 20 million miles.

Either manufacturers must spend potentially decades testing small fleets or the public will wind up taking part in the process of testing them. The latter is only really acceptable if infrastructure is in place to ensure the safety of drivers and pedestrians.

City and vehicle infrastructure isn't in place

Expecting individual autonomous vehicles to operate independently is a recipe for disaster.

Each vehicle would have to guess what all the others are doing. Each would rely only on its own limited view of the world, with sensors and cameras that can fail or be obstructed by poor weather or road debris.

Enabling vehicles to communicate with one another reduces the possibility of unpleasant surprises and allows vehicles to make communal decisions to maintain speed and safety. Some cars already have the capability to perform such communication, but there are no rules in place to guarantee cars from different manufacturers will be able to communicate with one another.

Infrastructure specific to autonomous vehicles such as smart traffic lights and camera systems could alert vehicles about pedestrians, cyclists and dangerous road conditions and help prevent accidents. Unfortunately, it has yet to be determined who would pay for the necessary infrastructure upgrades and whether Americans would be willing to accept more surveillance on their roads.

Unclear on who is liable when an accident happens

As long as self-driving features require the driver to be ready to take control, the driver will remain liable for any accidents. Car manufacturers are only liable if there's a fault in their vehicle. But what happens if an autonomous passenger car causes an accident? Is the manufacturer liable because it designed the system that's at fault?

Some states are trying to address the question. Florida passed a law saying that the person who initiates a trip in an autonomous vehicle

is considered the operator, and while the law doesn't explicitly establish liability, it is laying a foundation for how liability may be addressed. But the process is piecemeal, and so far existing laws haven't faced serious challenges in court.

Until there are laws in place to protect them, it's unlikely automakers will accept the risk of allowing drivers to use self-driving features without requiring them to remain ready to take control of the vehicle.

Self-driving fleets will pave the way

In the near future, the first autonomous vehicles will likely be taxis and cargo trucks. Both industries have remained bullish on autonomy for several reasons.

First, fleet companies can reduce overall employee counts without totally eliminating the human component. Waymo already has a system in place in which human supervisors can intercede to course correct an autonomous vehicle when it encounters a situation where it's incapable of deciding what to do next.

Second, taxi and trucking companies are already open to more liability for their drivers' mistakes. The money they save on payroll should make up for the liability risks if they believe autonomous systems are about as safe as the humans they replace.

EDMUNDS SAYS: You probably won't be able to buy an autonomous car any time soon. But expect autonomous fleet services to begin expanding in the near future.

Finding the source of Wi-Fi electronic interference

QI use a three-year-old Chromebook on a secure home Wi-Fi network. Recently, the Chromebook has been getting disconnected from the internet every day about 4:45 p.m. After I unplug and plug in the router, the internet works again. This doesn't happen with either my laptop or tablet computer. What's wrong?

A Given the clocklike precision of your Wi-Fi outage, I think it's caused by outside electronic interference from another Wi-Fi network, a gadget or a home appliance that turns on at a specific time every day—either inside your house or at a neighbor's.

Why would interference affect only your Chromebook? Perhaps the interference occurs in only one part of your house. Or maybe you haven't used your other devices at 4:45 p.m.

Here are some common causes of Wi-Fi interference:

- Neighboring Wi-Fi networks that overlap with yours.
- Microwave ovens, fluorescent lights, garage door openers, cordless phones and baby monitors.
- Bluetooth electronic devices such as wireless speakers, keyboards, mice and key-finders.
- Motion detectors that use radio waves or microwaves, and wireless security cameras.

Regardless of the source of the interference, you can try to fix the problem by moving your wireless router within your house, or not using too many wireless devices near each other.

Or, if you have a router that uses only the 2.4 gigahertz radio frequency, you can buy a dual-band router that uses both the 2.4 gigahertz and 5 gigahertz frequencies. The 5 gigahertz frequency travels shorter distances, and is less likely to pick up interference from a neighbor's Wi-Fi.

QI rent a combination cable modem and Wi-Fi router from the Comcast Xfinity internet service for \$14 a month. I'd rather buy

TECH Q&A

By STEVE ALEXANDER
Star Tribune (Minneapolis)

Steve Alexander covers technology for the Minneapolis Star Tribune. Readers may write to him at Tech Q&A, 425 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn. 55488-0002; email: steve.j.alexander@gmail.com. Please include a full name, city and phone number.



a replacement modem than continue to rent one. How can I find a compatible replacement?

A You have two choices. Buy a Comcast-compatible cable modem that has a built-in wireless router (\$90 to \$350), or buy two devices, a compatible stand-alone cable modem (\$50 to \$230) and a stand-alone router (\$30 to \$240.)

To find cable modems with and without Wi-Fi, read Comcast's "approved modem list" (see tinyurl.com/y2zlt8rv) or go to the websites of electronics retailers such as Micro Center or Best Buy and search for "Xfinity cable modem." Read the product details to find out if a particular modem includes Wi-Fi capability.

If you buy a modem and a router separately, only the modem needs to be Xfinity-compatible.

Two readers, Barbara Meyer of Maple Grove and David Raymond of Minneapolis, responded to a question from Lori Larson of St. Paul, whose Android phone had trouble connecting to her new Hyundai car via the Android Auto software (see tinyurl.com/y628gq2c).

Both said they'd solved similar problems by getting new Android phone cables to connect to their cars. Unfortunately, that's not the solution for everybody. Larson had also replaced her phone cable, but it didn't help. I still think Larson's problem was the age difference between her car's new software and her phone's aging Android 8 operating system.

Science Matters



Milk-drinking spread fast long ago

Lactose tolerance – the ability to digest the milk sugar lactose as an adult – spread through the people of Central Europe in a few thousand years, starting 3,000 years ago.

Advantage of being able to drink milk

As humans evolved, tolerating milk brought major advantages:

- It is high in protein and energy (carbohydrate)
- It is cleaner, less contaminated than most water supplies
- Milk improved chances of surviving famines
- Cattle, sheep, goats and camels all provide fresh, safe sources
- Cheese, a milk product, is stable and nutritious

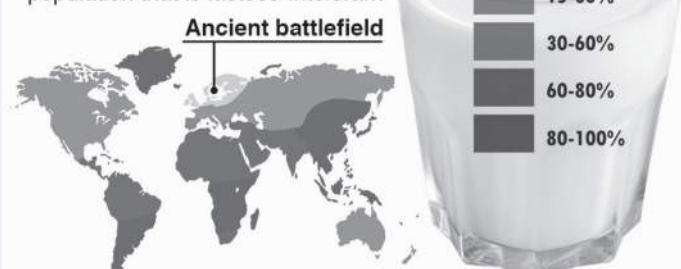
Lactose tolerance, a DNA variation

The ability to tolerate milk as an adult (a trait) depends on a multi-gene DNA variation involving multiple spots on a person's genome

New discovery: The DNA variation for lactose tolerance spread fast after arising in Central Europe

Milk drinkers today

Approximate percent of total population that is lactose-intolerant



Source: Joachim Burger of Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz; Current Biology; Food Intolerance Network; TNS Photos Graphic: Helen Lee McComas, Tribune News Service

Life & Style

After tense night, election mystery remains for media

By **DAVID BAUDER and LYNN ELBER**
ASSOCIATED PRESS

After an extraordinary night of shifting vote counts and a rebuke of President Donald Trump, news organizations kept vigil Wednesday as Americans waited to learn who their next president would be.

Methodical vote counting Wednesday left Democrat Joe Biden on the cusp of the presidency. The Associated Press said he has won enough states for 264 electoral votes and a win in one of four uncalled states—Georgia, North Carolina, Pennsylvania or Nevada—would make him the president-elect.

Cable and broadcast news divisions followed the story closely, even as they learned that election night coverage was a relative dud with viewers.

An estimated 56.9 million people watched coverage over 21 networks during primetime hours Tuesday, down sharply from the 71.4 million viewers on election night 2016, the Nielsen company said.

It was a cable news night, with Fox News Channel leading the way with 13.6 million viewers, followed by CNN (9.1 million) and MSNBC (7.3 million), Nielsen said. The legacy broadcast networks—ABC, NBC, CBS and Fox—followed in that order.

For weeks, media outlets

had warned that Americans would need patience on election night and beyond, and that turned out to be their most accurate prediction.

After several hours of little movement on Wednesday, news outlets called the Midwestern states of Wisconsin and Michigan for Biden, narrowing Trump's potential path to reelection.

News organizations didn't move in lockstep on their calls. By 6 p.m. EST, for example, no one had joined Fox News Channel or the AP in declaring Biden the winner in Arizona, which they had done more than 15 hours earlier.

Since voting has ended, the AP has published several

stories explaining to readers its thinking behind calling a state for one candidate or the other. On Wednesday, it gave a detailed accounting for the states where a race call had not been made. For example, the story noted Trump's lead in Pennsylvania, but said "the vast majority of the votes left to be counted there were cast by mail, a form of

voting that Biden has carried by a large margin."

Journalists sought to reassure people that there was nothing nefarious about the process of counting votes.

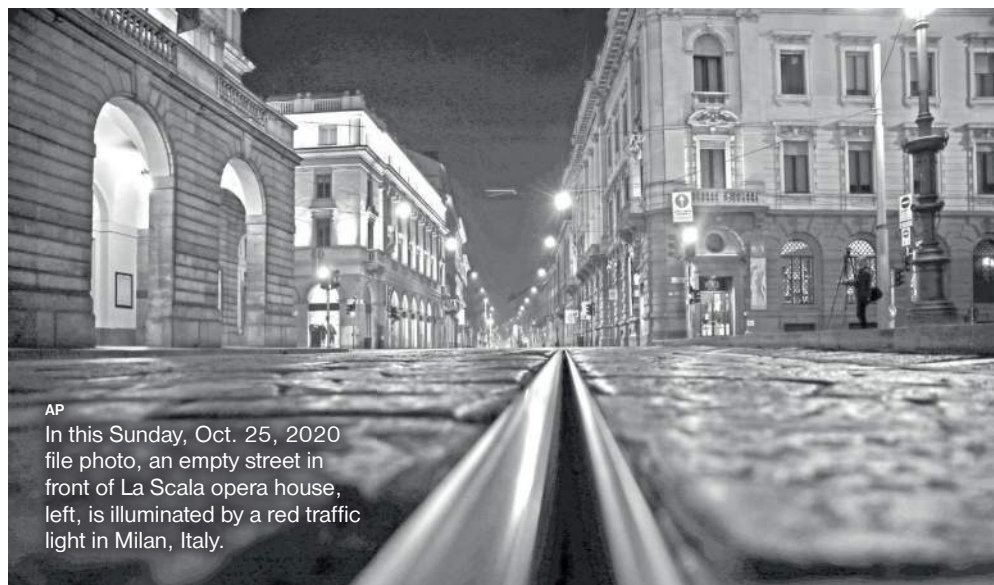
"It's not fraud," said CNN's John King. "It's math."

The overnight hours featured the stunning scene of journalists immediately refuting Trump after he stood

behind a White House podium and complained it was "a major fraud on our nation" that he hadn't been declared the winner.

NBC News' Savannah Guthrie broke into Trump's statement to tell viewers that several of Trump's statements were untrue. "The fact of the matter is we don't know who won the election," she said.

With performers infected, La Scala season premiere canceled



AP
In this Sunday, Oct. 25, 2020 file photo, an empty street in front of La Scala opera house, left, is illuminated by a red traffic light in Milan, Italy.

Rapper Tekashi 6ix9ine's kidnapper is sentenced to 24 years

NEW YORK (AP)—A man convicted in the kidnapping of rapper Tekashi 6ix9ine was sentenced to 24 years in prison Wednesday by a judge who cited his leadership role in a gang active nationwide.

U.S. District Judge Paul A. Engelmayer announced the sentence for Anthony Ellison, 33, who has been incarcerated at a federal lockup in Manhattan.

During a two-hour proceeding, the judge repeatedly cited the July 2018 kidnapping of Tekashi 6ix9ine and Ellison's slashing of another man's face that left him permanently disfigured.

Engelmayer called Ellison "cruel and vicious" for "slicing open a man's face" even though the man was not involved in a shooting Ellison was trying to avenge.

Prosecutors said in a writ-

ten court submission that the attack left the man with a scar from his ear to his chin, an injury so gruesome that Ellison's lawyers succeeded in getting some of the images kept from jurors.

Prosecutors said Ellison was a leader of a violent faction of the Nine Trey Gangsta Bloods.

"I'm not an angel but I'm not a monster," Ellison told the judge. "I do have faults. I am human."

After his own arrest, Tekashi 6ix9ine—whose legal name is Daniel Hernandez—pleaded guilty and became a cooperator.

At Ellison's trial last year, the rapper testified about his involvement with the gang. He described the kidnapping, saying Ellison and another man forced him into a stolen car

at gunpoint. He said the men drove him around, stopping sometimes to beat and taunt him as he begged for his life.

The men ultimately took him to his Brooklyn home, where they stole a bag full of jewelry before driving him a few blocks away and releasing him, he said.

In 2018, Tekashi 6ix9ine had a multiplatinum hit song, "Fefe," with Nicki Minaj, which peaked at No. 3 on the pop charts, and "Stoopid," featuring imprisoned rapper Bobby Shmurda.

In April, Tekashi 6ix9ine began serving home confinement for the last four months of a two-year prison term he was given for his role in a drive-by shooting in New York that he committed when he was with the gang. Weeks later, he released a new video, "Gooba."

ROME (AP)—The Dec. 7 season premiere at Milan's La Scala opera house, a gala event that is one of Italy's cultural highlights, is being canceled after a rash of coronavirus infections among musicians and chorus members.

The theater's board of directors concluded Wednesday that the status of the pandemic and Italy's virus-control measures, which include the closure of theaters, did not allow for "achieving a production open to the public and of the level and with the characteris-

tics required" for the premiere.

"Lucia di Lammermoor" had been on the program for the season's opening. La Scala said the scheduled opening night performance and the shows set for the following days have been postponed.

Politicians, business figures and other VIPs traditionally turn out for La Scala's season premiere, an official holiday in Milan.

The opera house reported a week ago that its entire orchestra had been told to quarantine

after nine musicians tested positive for the coronavirus. The chorus was put under an earlier quarantine after 18 singers were confirmed to be infected.

A government decree issued last month to battle a surge in coronavirus infections shut down Italy's theaters, cinemas and concert halls for a few weeks. Italian museums will also have to close their doors under a month-long closure that was supposed to begin Thursday, but was delayed by the government until Friday.

New retiree encourages others to find hobbies and save money

DEAR ABBY: I retired a year ago from a stressful job because I couldn't take what it was doing to my health. Despite a divorce after a 35-year marriage 10 years ago, I had recovered financially. I was lucky to have landed a job in my early 30s that had an employer-sponsored 401(k) plan, and I contributed to it for 34 years, putting in as much as I could. I am able to collect enough Social Security and withdraw a small amount from the 401(k) to live as I did when I worked.

I always had hobbies, interests and things I wanted to do but never had time for. I have been very happy and busy ever since. During the quarantine, getting groceries was a bit of a challenge, but I live simply and had no problems.

I am shocked at all the furloughed people who are having fits and complaining that they are bored out of their minds. This should be a wake-up call that they need to get a life. For these people, retirement is going to be really hard. Also, they need to plan for the future and have a six- to 12-month emergency fund.

I have put old home movies on DVDs, reorganized photo albums, cleared out a lot of stuff to simplify my life, put in a vegetable garden, made a quilt. COVID or not, I am a busy woman. Can you encourage all those bored people to learn a new craft, try a new recipe, make a birdhouse, SOMETHING other than call this busy woman and distract me from my projects?

LIVING IT UP IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

DEAR LIVING: No, but YOU should certainly consider doing it. You can also make yourself less available to the complainers by putting your phone on mute during the hours you prefer not to be disturbed. This is not to say your suggestions aren't good ones, just that I have urged readers for years to prepare well in advance for retirement and discuss with their spouse (if they have one) how the realities of daily living will change when it comes to chores and conserving personal space.

DEAR ABBY: A man has been reaching out to me on social media for three years. He claims to be in love with me (after having met me once, briefly), and I think I believe him.

It's hard to explain, but I think I may feel the same way toward him. The problem is, I have ignored him for the last three years. I blocked him on all social media, but he keeps finding ways to contact me. He even had flowers delivered to my house. To tell the truth, I ghosted him because I'm terrified of what our "love at first sight" connection could mean. I have been hurt in the past, and I know a relationship of this magnitude could destroy me emotionally.

I feel terrible for ignoring him, but my friends and family insist that he is a stalker, and they would never understand if I decided to pursue a relationship with him. I feel paralyzed.

DEAR ABBY

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



What should I do?

CONFUSED OUT EAST

DEAR CONFUSED: If a relationship of this magnitude could destroy you emotionally, then I do not recommend pursuing it. Sane individuals who have been ignored for three years usually take the hint and walk away. Listen to your family. What this man has been doing is, to say the least, unusual and could, indeed, be considered stalking.

Good advice for everyone – teens to seniors – is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



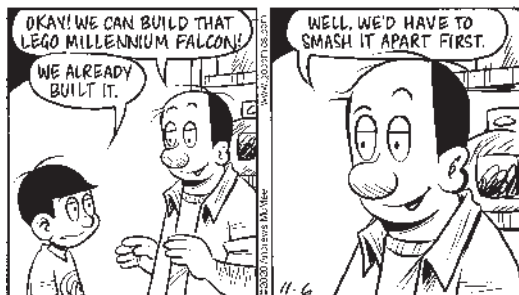
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Six-pack muscles
4 Nile bird
8 Pequot captain
12 Stitch
13 Touse
14 "Damn Yankees" vamp
15 London airport
17 Pitcher
18 Lunch hour
19 Grand stories
20 Dole out
22 Genie's home
24 Paint layer
25 "Ragtime" author
29 Fine, at NASA
30 Port of Nigeria
31 Ecol. watchdog
32 Held by a third party
34 Molt
35 Mid-month date

DOWN

36 Some college students
37 Telly watchers
40 — fide (genuine)
41 Expel
42 Crowd with vegetation jobs
46 Between
47 Sty cry
48 Observe
49 Ogler's look
50 Millinery
51 Hosp. areas

3 Spell-off
3 Tchaiskovsky ballet
4 "It's sweltering in here!"
5 Scorch
6 Equi-
7 Away from NNE
8 Syrian city
9 "— Met Your Mother"
10 Actor Guinness
11 Taverns
16 Horn sound
19 911 responders
20 "Super-food" berry
21 Bird
22 Company emblems
23 Have — (freak out)
25 Challenge
26 Practice, theatrically
27 Pundit's piece
28 Bankrolls
30 Some TV screens
33 Child care provider
34 Karaoke selection
36 Bottle stoppers
37 Seethe
38 Uncivil
39 Cruise stop
40 Crooked
42 Reaction to a light show
43 By way of
44 Not 'neath
45 Director Craven

Solution time: 25 mins.

C	H	C	W	U	R	N	R	E	I	S
R	A	V	E	L	E	A	A	E	A	
A	R	E	S	N	O	T	D	A	R	N
G	E	N	E	V	A	I	R	A	N	
C	L	A	U	S	D	E	E	D	I	G
O	I	L	Y	A	L	S	W	E	E	D
V	R	A	A	V	A	R	I	S	E	S
J	A	C	K	L	O	N	D	O	N	
A	L	E	C	E	Y	E	L	I	D	
T	I	R	E	A	B	U	B	O	N	E
A	C	T	D	E	C	A	G	R	A	
B	E	E	N	O	L	E	R	E	E	F

Yesterday's answer 11-6

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:

Emma Stone, 32; Thandie Newton, 48; Maria Shriver, 65; Sally Field, 74.

Happy Birthday: You'll pick up information readily. An insightful view will change your perspective regarding how and where you want to live. Expanding your knowledge and experience is encouraged. Check out online courses, be resourceful and strive to map out a path that stimulates your curiosity. Don't limit what you can do; be resourceful. You'll find the success you desire. Your numbers are 2, 8, 16, 23, 32, 37, 45.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Look for opportunities, send out your resume and market your skills. Actions speak louder than words; check out any lead you come across that allows you to use your attributes to bring in extra cash. Physical activities will stymie anxiety.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Thwart outside interference before it has a chance to infiltrate your personal or professional world. Take control, and bring about the changes you want to see instead of becoming compliant with what others push on you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Think more about what you want and what you can do. Pick up any slack, and put your plans in motion. Distance yourself from people that have let you down, and focus on what's possible.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Be reasonable, stay focused and control your emotions. If you get into a battle over something you cannot change, you'll waste valuable time. Concentrate on what you can accom-

plish, and look for opportunities that encourage success, not revenge.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Spend more time on self-improvement, learning new skills and updating your image. Stop worrying so much about what others think, and put your energy into reaching your goals. Be passionate about life, personal growth and romantic interests.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Embrace change, set up new goals and gather the information to help you transition from where you are to where you want to be in the future. Don't give in to someone putting demands on you that will stifle your plans.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don't get angry; get moving. Assess situations carefully, recognize what's fair and go about your business. Arguing is a waste of time. Progress comes from taking hold of a situation and dealing with matters constructively.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Create an environment that is conducive to achieving your goals. Feeling comfortable and at ease regarding your pursuits will encourage you to be productive. Choosing a unique lifestyle will lead to personal growth, confidence and success. Follow the path that makes you feel alive.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Home improvements look promising. Do as much of the work yourself as possible to avoid unnecessary costs. Verify information before you make a decision or hire someone you shouldn't. Romance will brighten your day. Discuss your plans with someone you love.

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Easy does it; don't feel you have to jump through hoops to appease someone disgruntled. Concentrate on your objective, not what others do or say. You'll gain the most if you implement the changes that suit your needs.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Take care of documents before they expire. Keeping up will save you from the hassle that will eat up your time. Look for alternative ways to budget for something you need or changes you want to make. Romance and partnerships look inviting.

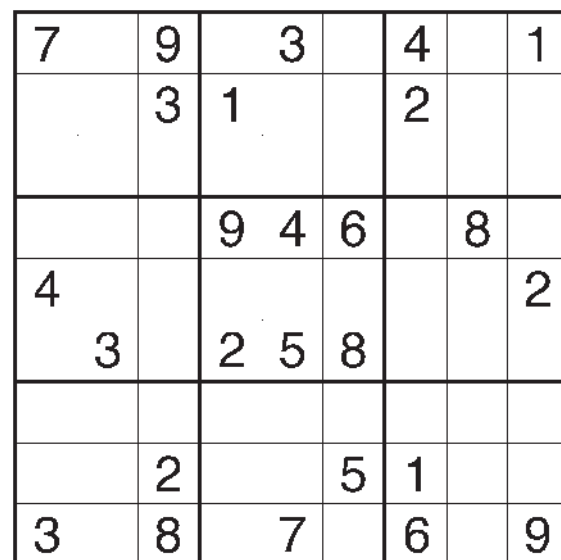
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Focus on creativity and innovative ideas that will make a difference. A chance to make extra cash is within reach. Partner with someone who shares your beliefs and has something to offer to help you get your ideas up and running.

Birthday Baby: You are original, intelligent and persuasive. You are persistent and appealing. Visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn. Copyright 2020 Andrews McMeel Syndication

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

1	6	7	9	8	3	5	2	4
5	3	9	4	2	1	7	8	6
8	2	4	5	6	7	1	3	9
7	4	6	1	5	2	8	9	3
3	5	2	8	7	9	4	6	1
9	1	8	3	4	6	2	7	5
2	8	5	6	9	4	3	1	7
4	9	1	7	3	8	6	5	2
6	7	3	2	1	5	9	4	8

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

11/06

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

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Solution: 13 letters

X D E N L A C O L Y L I A D M
M E T S R A E T A N O D S E A
O A D T N P E Y N R V U T L R
N L S N R R L O D E B R R I K
T S U E I K P E R S O E O V E
H A S M E U R T C P B P L E T
L S T E O B I R O R I O O R S
Y A W C I S I L E I T R G Y S
P P R N E B I R T N U T Y N E
U R I U E T E S T T A S S H N
N O T O A A I M E H R C E T I
G M E N D L E M Z M I A I L S
I O R N S B O J A A E R V A U
S T C A F H N T G E S S O E B
F E A T U R E D I T O R M H L

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11/6

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Talks on Booker leaving Suns resurface



PHOENIX—Devin Booker said in 2018, “This is probably my last year ever not making the playoffs.”

The Suns missed the playoffs in 2019 and 2020 and face a difficult path for making the 2021 playoffs.

The worst-kept secret in the league is Booker already wants out of there.

Stars often want to leave losing teams. But does Booker want to leave Phoenix? It may be less convincing. Even more than stars want to leave losing teams, people love to talk about stars leaving losing teams. These assessments can quickly gain momentum with little underlying reason.

This rumor sounds mostly circumstantial.

Maybe Booker will eventually request a trade. The Suns just had their best season with him. They went 34-39. At some point, Booker surely wants to see more team success.

He did his part last season, advancing into a genuine star rather than someone whose dazzling numbers outshined his contributions to winning. Though Booker has (admirably) repeatedly talked about looking in the mirror for improvement, he could eventually pin the blame elsewhere.

But Phoenix’s 8-0 bubble performance was encouraging, and Deandre Ayton could be a nice young co-star for Booker. Booker also has four years left on his contract. The Suns, whether or not he loves their methodology, are built around him.

It’s difficult to see this situation spiraling into a trade any time soon.

But with other teams so interested in prying Booker loose, expect this chatter to continue.

The best thing Phoenix can do to silence it: Win. Otherwise, Booker’s desire to reach the playoffs could very well lead to a breakup with the Suns—down the road.

Hayward may opt out

There are \$34.1 million reasons for Gordon Hayward to stay in Boston next season—and that still may not be enough.

There has been some talk in league circles that Hayward’s agent was testing the waters to see if a longer-term contract with more guaranteed money was out there.

“I’ve heard Gordon Hayward does want out, but I don’t know if he’s gonna get the money. He’s not opting out of that huge number unless he knows he’s getting the deal,” The Ringer’s Ryan Russell said.

Most teams with cap space



In this Aug. 11, 2020 file photo, Phoenix Suns guard Devin Booker (1) dunks against Philadelphia 76ers guard Furkan Korkmaz (30) and forward Norvel Pelle (14) during the second half of an NBA game in Lake Buena Vista, Fla.

to be interested in a Hayward trade but the deal is not easy to put together.

Hayward opting out does not suddenly give Boston a lot of money to attack the free-agent market with—Kemba Walker is on a huge contract, Jaylen Brown got a big extension, and the Celtics are going to have to max out Jayson Tatum. Even if Hayward opts out, Boston would still have less than \$20 million to spend in free agency (and Tatum’s contract doesn’t kick in for a year).

Most likely, Hayward opts-in and takes the money—\$34.1 million is a lot of money even if your last name is Bezos. He’s playing for his college coach in Brad Stevens and the Celtics enter next season as contenders to come out of the East. Hayward may not love his role in Boston, but is the grass really greener elsewhere?

Holiday on trading block

When the New Orleans Pelicans hired Stan Van Gundy as coach, it implied the franchise was thinking more short term, win now and make the playoffs. That was counter to a “get elite players on the Zion Williamson and Brandon Ingram timeline and build a good young core that might contend for a title in a few years” plan. Now comes a report suggesting the Pelicans are thinking on that longer timeline.

New Orleans is open to a trade of veteran point guard Jrue Holiday and is talking to teams, according to Shams Charania of The Athletic.

Holiday would help any contending team. He can play either guard spot, is a quality on-ball defender, and averaged 19.1 points and 6.7 assists a game while shooting 35.3% from three last season. He is owed \$26.2 million this season with a player option for \$27 million next season.

Denver made a run at Holiday last trade deadline and has been rumored around the league as a team that would aggressively pursue Holiday. He would fit well as Brooklyn’s third star, he would help Milwaukee’s playmaking issues in the postseason, would give the Clippers the playmaking guard they are seeking, plus a case could be made for his fit with the Lakers, Mavericks, and Timberwolves. (AP/NBC)

NBA, players nearing deal on 72-game season

NEW YORK—It hasn’t even been a month since the Los Angeles Lakers’ win in the 2020 NBA Finals, but the next NBA season could be right around the corner.

The National Basketball Players Association is planning to take a formal vote among team player representatives on Thursday on the league’s proposal of a 72-game season beginning on Dec. 22, according to ESPN’s Adrian Wojnarowski and Zach Lowe. The representatives are reportedly expected to approve the agreement.

If the proposal is approved by the players, NBA commissioner Adam Silver and the league’s board of governors expect to formally accept this week. That would lift the league’s moratorium and allow business-like trades to proceed. Urgency is direly needed given that training camps would begin on Dec. 1 under the arrangement, with

free agency and the NBA draft on Nov. 18 still on the docket.

Basically, the league is going to try to compress its entire offseason into a span of less than four weeks. Of course, there is a 10-figure reason for reasons to push for that at the expense of their employees.

Right now, the NBA’s long-term goal is going to be returning to its usual schedule.

That would ideally be a gradual process—starting the season later than usual and gradually moving up the calendar over a few seasons. However, the NBA is clearly terrified of a season extending into the summer again after brutal ratings in the playoffs and with the Summer Olympics looming next year. Those concerns reportedly translate to a range of \$500 million to \$1 billion in losses for the league if the season started in January rather than December.

Add that to the NBA’s re-

ported \$1.5 billion miss in revenue last season and the billions in revenue that will likely be lost this season by playing games with few, if any, spectators, and you have a league that’s going to try to move the season up as early as possible.

The NBA’s 50-50 split of basketball-related income gives the players a big reason to accept the Dec. 22 start, but there was still some reported resistance to the idea from the NBPA.

The biggest concern on the players’ side would be their side of the compressed offseason. Last year’s offseason essentially stretched from June 13, the last game of the 2019 NBA Finals, to Sept. 28, when most teams were allowed to open training camp. That is a span of 107 days.

The time between Oct. 11, the last game of the 2020 NBA Finals, and Dec. 1? 51 days.

Granted, there are eight teams that haven’t played

games since March, but asking players on the Lakers and Miami Heat to be ready for their next season in a span of less than two months is a tall order, especially for the team’s veterans. Lakers guard Danny Green has already said he thinks LeBron James and other Lakers veterans could miss the first month of the season if it begins in December.

Another thing the league and union are reportedly working on is how these players will actually be paid.

ESPN reports the NBPA is holding team conference calls this week to discuss a salary escrow for players in the range of 18 percent over the next two years. Under such an arrangement, that portion would be removed from players’ salaries and placed in a fund that would go back to the league in the likely scenario of revenue dipping to the point that players exceed their 50 percent split of income. (AP/NBC)

this offseason—Charlotte, New York, Detroit—are not going to spend it on a 30-year-old Gordon who is not on the timeline of their young stars and is not a player that vaults them into playoff contention by his presence.

Atlanta, a team reportedly feeling ownership pressure to make a leap into the playoffs next season, would make more sense because Hayward gives them a quality wing and secondary playmaker next to Trae Young.

However, it would be a lot of money to lock in for years and the Hawks want to keep their flexibility to find players on Young’s timeline to build something long-term. ESPN’s Zach Lowe and Bobby Marks hinted at this Hayward idea in

a recent podcast, but again left it as “buzz” around the league and conjecture.

The other option is to find a sign-and-trade for Hayward (or just a straight-up trade), but that also would be difficult to do. Indiana was rumored

Nadal earns 1,000th win in empty, silent stadium

PARIS (AP)—Becoming only the fourth man to reach 1,000 match wins should have drawn deafening cheers and a standing ovation for tennis great Rafael Nadal.

Instead, he reached his milestone amid a cathedral-like silence Wednesday in a 20,000-seater stadium left completely empty because of the coronavirus pandemic. There was only a fist-bump from Feliciano Lopez, after Nadal beat him, 4-6, 7-6 (5), 6-4, in the Paris Masters in a subdued atmosphere more worthy of a library study area than a sports arena.

"The real feeling, the personal feeling is completely different," Nadal said. "It makes a big difference that the court is empty."

The 34-year-old Nadal joins towering company in Jimmy Connors (1,274), Roger Federer (1,242) and Ivan Lendl (1,068) as the only men's 1,000-club members since the Open era began in 1968.

"I know it is a very special number, one thousand," Nadal said. "Even if it's not the same to celebrate something like this without a crowd."

Nadal smiled as he posed at the net with the number 1,000 displayed on the court in a brief ceremony, and then walked off center court like after any other match.

It was the second milestone he reached in Paris this year, having won the French Open last month to tie Federer on 20 majors. But while 1,000 fans cheered him at Roland Garros, none were at the Bercy Arena.

"Of course it's sad, the level of energy is difficult to compare," Nadal said. "So the feeling, even if 1,000 (fans) or



1,500 or 2,000 is not a lot."

The 34-year-old's first win came in May 2002 at the age of 15, when he beat Paraguayan Ramon Delgado in the first round at Mallorca.

A year later, the 16-year-old Nadal stunned the tennis world by beating French Open world champion Albert Costa under floodlights in the second round at the Monte Carlo Masters.

By the age of 24, he had already reached 500 wins. His

career tally also includes 35 Masters titles and 86 tournament victories overall.

The 39-year-old Lopez won their first meeting back in 2003 and had beaten Nadal four times overall. He had 22 aces and troubled a sluggish Nadal, who failed to convert six break points in the second set but broke immediately at the start of the third.



"I started the match the worst way possible, especially against a big server like Feli," Nadal said. "After that I played under a lot of pressure the rest of the match, but I found a way."

Nadal, who has never won this tournament, next plays Jordan Thompson of Australia, who upset 15th-seeded Croat Borna Coric, 2-6, 6-4, 6-2.

Alexander Zverev joined Nadal in the third round by beating Miomir Kecmanovic, 6-2, 6-2.

The fourth-seeded German did not face a break point against the 42nd-ranked Serb.

Zverev hit eight aces and converted his first match point. Chasing a third title of the year, he next faces Adrian Mannarino of France.

Fifth-seeded Andrey Rublev easily won, 6-1, 6-2, against

Spain's Rafael Nadal poses with the trophy of his 1,000th victory in the ATP at the end of his match against compatriot Feliciano Lopez during the second round of the Paris Masters tennis tournament at the Bercy Arena in Paris, Wednesday, Nov. 4, 2020.

Radu Albot for a tour-leading 40th win of the year, moving one ahead of top-ranked Novak Djokovic. Rublev won the Erste Bank Open in Vienna last Sunday for a tour-leading fifth title of the season and next plays three-time Grand Slam champion Stan Wawrinka.

The 12th-seeded Swiss won, 4-6, 7-6 (3), 6-2, against unseeded American Tommy Paul.

Meanwhile, No. 3 Russian Daniil Medvedev advanced after Kevin Anderson retired when trailing 5-2 in the first-set tiebreaker because of a right leg injury.

No. 6 Diego Schwartzman beat Frenchman Richard Gasquet 7-5, 6-3, keeping the Argentine on course to clinch the final spot for the Nov. 15-22 ATP Finals in London. He can guarantee that by reaching the semifinals in Paris.

No. 10 Milos Raonic also advanced by winning 6-4, 6-4 against Frenchman Pierre-Hugues Herbert.

The big-serving Canadian, a runner-up here in 2014, had 11 aces and concluded with a sliced volley at the net. He next faces American Marcos Giron.

No. 16 Alex de Minaur also advanced with a 6-3, 7-5 win over Italian Lorenzo Sonego—the runner-up to Rublev last Sunday.

Bauer may pitch in New York

CINCINNATI—From a pitching standpoint, there's no bigger name on the free agency market this offseason than Trevor Bauer.

Bauer is rejecting the Cincinnati Reds' \$18.9 million qualifying offer.

But could his next home be in New York?

Bauer's agent, Rachel Luba, joined John Jastremski on WFAN Wednesday evening, speaking about what kind of deal Bauer is looking for this season, and whether or not pitching in New York is something the right-hander could see in his future.

"All I'm going to say is he should be, and very likely going to be the Cy Young winner. He's looking to be fairly compensated for a (soon-to-be) 30-year-old going into free agency coming off of, hope-

fully, a Cy Young win," Luba said.

"He's a fan of big markets, in terms of building his brand. I think he's made it very clear and he's good at it. He's good at finding create ways to build a brand. He built a pretty incredible brand, especially over, I think, the last year, after being in ... an entirely Ohio market. So, if you can build the brand that he has in an Ohio market, imagine what he can do in a bigger market."

Luba said that all 30 MLB teams are in play for Bauer's services, and even though many teams are being hit hard by the COVID-19 pandemic, she believes there will be plenty of money spent this offseason on players like Bauer.

"They already are, I think, trying to come out and make a stance and make a point that they're crying poor and that

they have no money to spend. I don't think that surprises anybody and I think it's very clear what they're doing," Luba said. "I think when it's all said and done, they're going to spend money, but they're going to try to scare players into thinking they won't and try to get them at a discount for sure."

"I would say that the only team that doesn't seem to have that, or that doesn't seem to be voicing that stance is the Mets with the new owner."

And while Bauer's play on the field speaks for itself, the pitcher is also known for being outspoken off the field, never shying away from voicing his opinion on different topics.

While some people may see Bauer's outspoken ways as a negative, Luba believes those inside the game are fine with having a pitcher with personality, and that Bauer is helping

to build the game's national audience.

"People see that he's intelligent, and at least in the recent couple of years he's been more intentional about [things], he has a purpose for the things he's said on Twitter. He has a strategy and he knows what he's doing, and I don't think anybody who really understands the game and industry can't see that," Luba said. "They totally get what he's doing, and I think he's great for the game. He has drawn interest in the game in an incredible way. He's also encouraged other players to start speaking up and to have personalities, and I think we've seen what he's been able to do."

"You saw a lot of it during quarantine with the negotiations and him really vocalizing his thoughts, and they were very, I think, articulated thoughts and valid thoughts and feelings. He encouraged a lot of other players to speak

up and he's always been a big promoter of personalities in the game. Ultimately, I think he has the same goals as the owners, as MLB, as players, as fans—it's 'grow the game.'"

Bauer was 5-4 with a National League-leading 1.73 ERA, striking out 100 and walking 17 in 73 innings. Acquired from Cleveland on July 31, 2019, he had a \$17.5 million, one-year contract that resulted in \$6,481,481 in prorated pay. He would earn a \$92,593 bonus for winning the NL Cy Young Award, prorated from an original \$250,000.

Bauer was among six players given qualifying offers, joined by Houston outfielder George Springer, New York Yankees second baseman DJ LeMahieu, Philadelphia catcher J.T. Realmuto, New York Mets right-hander Marcus Stroman and San Francisco right-hander Kevin Gausman.

By offering compensation, a team losing a qualified free

agent would receive a pick in next June's amateur draft as compensation, either after the first round, after competitive balance round B or after the fourth round, depending on the luxury tax and revenue sharing status of the player's new team and whether the new contract is for a guarantee of \$50 million or more.

Meanwhile, the San Francisco Giants may also be a landing spot for Bauer, according to MLB Network's Jon Heyman.

"Look, the Giants signaled they have money," Heyman said. I'm gonna say the Giants—I've heard that whispered for the Giants with Bauer, we shall see. He's got personality quirks and that may hold him back. "He's a fantastic pitcher—incredible, great pitcher. I'm gonna say he gets five for 150."

That's a five-year, \$150 million contract from the Giants for Bauer. (AP/NBC)

Brown faces Saints in Buccaneers debut



TAMPA, Fla.

(AP)—Antonio Brown says he's grateful to be back in the NFL and reunited with Tom Brady.

"Tom is my boy, one of the greatest leaders to be around," the seven-time Pro Bowl receiver—back after missing most of last season and then serving an eight-game suspension for violating the league's personal conduct policy—said after practicing with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers for the first time Wednesday.

"He's encouraging, always inspiring. He brings out the best in people around him," Brown, wearing a Brady TB12 hat during a video conference call, added. "He wants the best

for everyone around him."

The former Steelers, Raiders and Patriots receiver signed a one-year contract that could be worth up to \$2.5 million and expects to make his debut for the Bucs when the NFC South leaders host the New Orleans Saints on Sunday night.

The 32-year-old Brown hasn't played in the NFL since September 2019, when he had four receptions for 56 yards and a touchdown in the only game he played with Brady during a brief stint with New England. The Patriots released him because of off-the-field issues the league is still investigating.

The suspension that ended after the Bucs played the New York Giants on Monday night stemmed from an incident that



Antonio Brown takes part in the Tampa Bay Buccaneers practice at the Advent Health Training Facility in Tampa, Florida, on Wednesday, Nov. 4, 2020.

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From Page 24

strength this year with the Dynamic Duo joining the young and improving core of Caris LeVert, Jarret Allen, Spencer Dinwiddie, and Joe Harris.

D'Antoni was thought to be going to the Philadelphia 76ers until NBA champion coach Glenn Rivers (he can't be called "Doc" anymore because there could only be one "doctor" in Philly) became available after he was fired—err, amicably parted ways—with the Los Angeles Clippers. It would've been a perfect fit for D'Antoni with the 76ers as weeks after his departure from H-Town, the 76ers hired his old boss, Daryl Morey, to serve as the team's president of basketball operations.

The Morey-D'Antoni partnership in the City of Brotherly Love would've been in-

teresting as the proponents of "small ball" would probably make a Philadelphia Experiment by creating their own version of the Monstars. Why not, since they already have 7'0" Joel Embiid, 6'10" Ben Simmons, 6'9" Al Horford, and 6'8" Tobias Harris starting for them. I'd say trade relative Lilliputian 6'6" Josh Richard back to Miami in exchange for 6'11" Kelly Olynk and Morey-D'Antoni will finally get to play "giant ball." Just imagine Embiid starting at center, Horford at power forward, Olynk at small forward, Harris at off guard, and Simmons at point. Sure they'd be slow and plodding, but good luck getting shots in the paint and getting rebounds from these ogres of the hardwood.

D'Antoni going to Philly instead of going back to New York (he did coach the Knicks from 2008 to 2012 and brought

forth Linsanity) would've also add more fuel to the rumors that the Rockets are willing to trade James Harden to the 76ers in exchange for Simmons. Although that would ultimately ruin my Monstars lineup, pairing Harden with a top-flight center like Embiid would be ready-your-p popcorn level fun to watch (as if the Harden-Dwight Howard partnership paid any dividends).

Ultimately, I bet D'Antoni only stays a season or two in Brooklyn until another Coach of the Year awardee gets the axe and another coaching vacancy opens. At the very best, I hope he bequeaths his entire offensive playbook (not defensive playbook because he has none) to Nash and see Durant, Irving, and company flourish in a faster "5 second or less" system. At the very least, I hope he convinces Irving that the Earth is not flat.

drew police to the receiver's home in South Florida earlier this year.

Brown is also facing a civil lawsuit filed by a woman who accused him of sexual assault.

"I took a lot of time off from the game to reevaluate myself, to look within, to get a better perspective of myself and work on myself within and without," Brown said.

Brady welcomed Tampa Bay's decision to give Brown a chance to resume his career and is allowing the four-time

All Pro to stay with him in a home the quarterback is renting from baseball Hall of Famer Derek Jeter.

Brown said he appreciates Brady's support.

"I'm extremely grateful to be here. ... First and foremost, being away from the game for a year and a half, just to be a part of the process and be out there with the guys today was surreal, something I don't take for granted," Brown said.

"I won't say I'm a different person, but I'm a better per-

son," he added. "Learning a lot about myself, working on myself for a year and a half, I think I'm a better person."

Bucs coach Bruce Arians was Pittsburgh's offensive coordinator when the Steelers drafted Brown in the sixth round in 2010.

Several members of Arians' current staff, including Bucs offensive coordinator Byron Leftwich, were with the Steelers early in Brown's career.

The receiver said those relationships will help him make the most of his opportunity with the Bucs. He also thanked Brady for steering him to motivational speaker and life coach Tony Robbins, who worked with Brown on anger issues.

"I had good trainers, good people around me in my corner who kept me encouraged, that kept me motivated," the receiver said. "And I just believed one day I would get a chance to be back in this position. I just tried to check every box to make sure when I was able to get back I was ready to go."

Sablan wins August SGA Ace

By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



Edward C. Sablan secured a slot to the club championship after taking the Saipan Golfers Association's August Ace last Sunday.

Sablan delivered a net 69 to finish second behind Steve Balakrishna (net 68) and two shots ahead of Ben Lizama (net 71). Balakrishna had already won the July Ace, al-

lowing Sablan to notch the August plum and qualify for the SGA Ace of Aces.

The 20-handicapper Sablan was pretty consistent with his game on the east course of the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort after firing a 44 on the front and 45 on the back for a gross 89. Balakrishna, on the other hand, had a strong start with his even par 36 in the first nine holes before the 11-handicapper slowed down in the last with a 43 for a gross 79. Liza-

ma, a 18-handicapper, had a pair of 45s for a gross 90.

Balakrishna's best net scores in the SGA August Ace tournament was highlighted by two closest to the pin shots—on the par-3s, 150-yard No. 6 and 122-yard No. 15. Nick Sablan and Jung Eun Teack were the other closest to the pin winners, achieving the fete on the 150-yard No. 4 and 170-yard No. 11, respectively. Sablan also had a longest drive shot on the par-5, 502-yard No. 8, while Rene Batallones made the same shot on the par-4, 257-yard No. 5.

Meanwhile, with the August Ace tournament completed, SGA is slowly catching up with its monthly competitions, which have been delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Next up for SGA is the September Ace event, which is scheduled for this Sunday, Nov. 8, also at the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort.

Excluding this weekend's competition, SGA will hold three more events to complete the SGA Ace of Aces' cast, which already has Attorney General Edward Manibusan (January Ace), Teack (February), Nick Sablan (March), Juan "Pan" Guerrero (April), Das Krishnan (May), Larry Deleon Guerrero (June), Steve Balakrishna (July), and Edward Sablan (August).



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

In this file photo, Edward C. Sablan tees off in one of Saipan Golfers Association's earlier tournaments at the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort.

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maximum of six runners (plus one alternate) and the squad should be co-ed with at least two female and two male members. Students-runners must complete the 1.1-mile course in 25 minutes or those who will not make the cut-off time will be escorted out of the field and marked did not finish on the results table. Finishers must quickly exit the CPA Field after their respective races, as NMA and PSS are discouraging large crowd gathering during the event. Spectators are not allowed to enter the start/finish area, while runners must wear masks before and after their races, and coaches/officials must wear masks at all times.

Middle school races draw 43

The same safety rules will be applied for tomorrow's middle school competition, which at-

tracted 43 participants.

The boys division (U14) race will go ahead first at 7:35am, while the girls will take the field at 8:05am. Cut-off time for the 2.1-mile race is 30 minutes.

Agape, which won the championship both in the boys and girls middle school races last year, will have nine runners in the first leg of the series. Barba Wang, Serena Chen, Ruth Zhang, and Esther and Jenny Xu are the members of Agape's girls crew, while Peter Peng, Boxin Chen, Danny Cheng, and Joseph Li will run for the Torchbearers' boys team.

Others competing in the U14 divisions are SIS, Mt. Carmel, Saipan Community, Hopwood Middle School, and Francisco M. Sablan Middle School.

FMS has a strong seven-student team (including alternate) in Froilan Wabol, Tony Satur, Daniel Santos, Charles Rodre-

Lucero, and Cedric Catacutan. For its girls team, FMS will be banking on Narita Sellem, R-nessa Shorey, Maya Reubenog, and Teneasha Diaz.

SIS has a complete team in both boys and girls division. Christian Newman will lead the Geckos in the boys race and will be teaming up with Casey Chambers, William Lee, Peter White, and Kyle Kramer. The SIS girls squad, on the other hand, has Savita Sikkil, Rebecca Eaton, Phoenix Gross, Hoo Wang, Eva Lizunova, and Ziting Wu.

Mt. Carmel has only four runners in siblings Mark Jainier, Julie Anne, and Andrei Kaithlyn Chavez and June Yi, while Hopwood is fielding three—all in the boys race—Charles Guiang, James Xing, and Tyrone Manipon. Saipan Community has the least number of entries in the middle school division with only David Ye and Hilah Bacani joining this Saturday morning's races.



Talks on
Booker
leaving Suns
resurface

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Saipan Tribune Sports

Nadal earns
1,000th win in
empty, silent
stadium

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

CROSS COUNTRY SEASON KICKS OFF

Ready, set, go



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Elementary school students race to the finish line during last year's Public School System/Northern Marianas Athletics All Schools Cross Country Series at the Saipan Country Club.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

After months of preparations and carefully taking into consideration everyone's safety amid the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2020-2021 Public School System/Northern Marianas Athletics All Schools Cross Country Series will finally hit the CPA Airport Field today.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Race officials work on marking the CPA Airport Field in preparation for this afternoon's opening leg of the 2020-2021 Public School System/Northern Marianas Athletics All Schools Cross Country Series.



The first major interscholastic competition of the season will kick off with the elementary division (U11) races, which will feature 51 runners from eight schools.

Safety measures will be strictly implemented before, during, and after the races, including social distancing rules. PSS and NMA marked the course yesterday to guide runners and keep their distance from each other all throughout the race. There will be starting boxes and runners will head out to the course in two heats.

Heat 1 will be for runners representing William S. Reyes Elementary School, Saipan Community School, Brilliant Star School, and Saipan International School and the race will start at 4:15pm. Heat 2 race kickoff will be at 5pm and will feature students from Agape Christian School, Mt. Carmel School, Kagman Elementary School, and Isla Montessori School.

Each school is allowed a

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7 seconds or less, East Coast style

MARKSMAN

By MARK RABAGO

Associate Editor

Growing up Mark wanted to play pro basketball. When his talent and height didn't measure up, he opted for a career in journalism instead.



All the Brooklyn Nets need now is Shawn Marion and the Phoenix Suns band will be back together again.

I'm not saying that Marion will suddenly come out of retirement and suit up for the Nets, but rather he should join head coach Steve Nash's staff after the recent hiring of former Houston Rockets coach Mike D'Antoni as an assistant coach. Earlier, Amare Stoudemire finally hung up his jersey and also joined Nash's coaching staff in Brooklyn.

Nash's hiring last September already drew a lot of criticisms, since he doesn't have any previous coaching experience and leapfrogged a number of assistant coaches who have toiled on the sidelines for years. It also didn't help that the former two-time regular season MVP is white, which didn't bode well for supporters of minority hiring.

The D'Antoni hire just came out of left field for me. Sure, the main propo-

nent of "7 second or less" is Nash's former head coach in Phoenix (2004-2008) and with the Los Angeles Lakers (2012-14) and just left the Houston Rockets a few months back. His coaching credentials are unquestionable as he's a former Coach of the Year winner and has had a storied over 20-year NBA coaching career, but him serving as chief lieutenant to a former player could ultimately result in a power struggle in the borough.

And that would be unfortunate as the Nets are a legitimate contender in the Eastern Conference with all-stars Kevin Durant and Kyrie Irving onboard. While Durant missed all of last season due to an Achilles tear he suffered in Game 6 of the 2019 Finals against the Toronto Raptors and Irving played only 20 games (including all of the games in the Orlando bubble) due to various injuries, Brooklyn will be at full

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AP

In this Jan. 31, 2020 file photo, Brooklyn Nets' Kyrie Irving (11) shoots over Chicago Bulls' Chandler Hutchison (15) during the second half of an NBA game in New York.